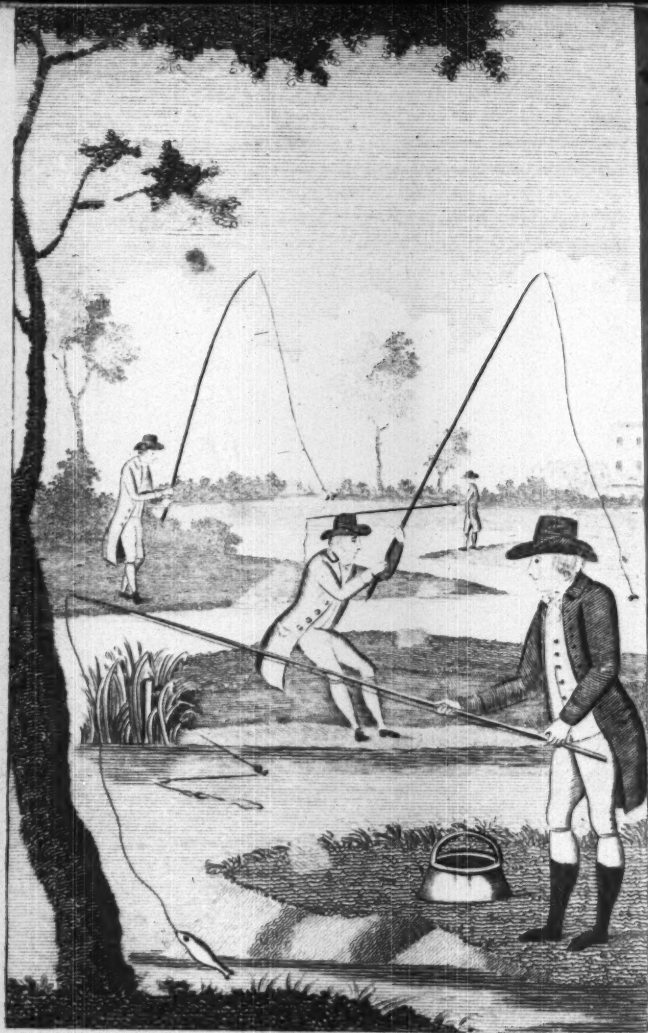




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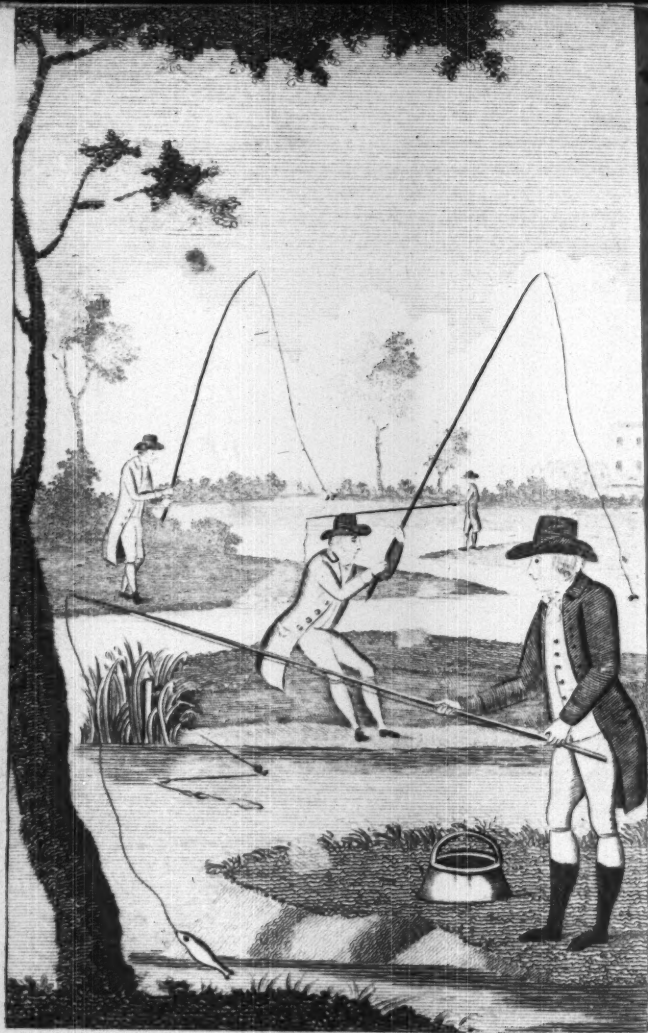
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THE
YOUNG ANGLER'S
Pocket Companion;

OR,
A NEW AND COMPLETE TREATISE
ON THE
ART OF ANGLING,

As may be practised with Success
In every River in England; during both the
Winter and Summer Seasons:

DIRECTING,

By plain and easy Methods the young Angler to perfect
himself in this Art, in a little Time; either as to Paste
or Bait-Fishing of any Sort; or Fly-Fishing, Natural or
Artificial; and both in a most curious Manner. Also
the Art of making Artificial Flies, Whipping-Lines, and
Rods; and the truest Method of catching most Sorts of
large Fish.

TO WHICH IS NOW ADDED,

A new and most successful Method of TROLLING and
laying TRIMMERS; with a Copper-Plate, shewing the
different Methods of baiting the Gorge-Hook, the Beard-
Hook, the Live-Bait and Trimming Hook.

TOGETHER WITH

The best Method of SMELT-FISHING:
Both which have never before been treated on.

BY RALPH COLE, GENT.

LONDON:

Printed for W. LANF,

Leaden-Hall-Street.

1795.

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CONTENTS.

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PAGE.

CHAP. I.	<i>Making of Whipping-Rods,</i>	7
CHAP. II.	<i>In what manner to make a curious sort of single-haired Lines, with various par- ticulars concerning Hooks and Shot,</i>	10
CHAP. III.	<i>Of Floats,</i>	12
	<i>Observations on Smelt Fishing,</i>	14
CHAP. IV.	<i>Containing Instructions for angling with Paste and Worms,</i>	15
CHAP. V.	<i>Containing Rules for angling for Barbel, in the New River, or any other water, either still or rapid,</i>	20
CHAP. VI.	<i>Containing some particulars relat- ing to the manner of angling for Tench,</i>	25
CHAP. VII.	<i>Containing rules for catching Perch,</i>	27
CHAP. VIII.	<i>Shewing the method of catching Crusoes, or Crucians,</i>	30
CHAP. IX.	<i>Containing the best method of angling for Bream. Likewise observations on Trolling and Trimmer Fishing,</i>	31
CHAP. X.	<i>Containing Instructions for catching Pike,</i>	36
CHAP. XI.	<i>Containing Instructions for catching Trout,</i>	38
CHAP. XII.	<i>Shewing the proper method of angling for Gudgeons,</i>	40

CONTENTS.

CHAP. XIII.	<i>Shewing how to take Eels in the common way,</i>	45
CHAP. XIV.	<i>Shewing how to sniggle for Eels,</i>	49
CHAP. XV.	<i>Containing Instructions for whipping, both with natural and artificial Baits,</i>	51
CHAP. XVI.	<i>Shewing the proper method of Dipping or Dapping,</i>	55
CHAP. XVII.	<i>Containing Rules for Winter-Fishing,</i>	57
CHAP. XVIII.	<i>Giving an account of Natural Flies, Moths, Grasshoppers, Gnats, &c.</i>	58
CHAP. XIX.	<i>Containing the proper methods for making the various sorts of Artificial Flies,</i>	62
CHAP. XX.	<i>Containing other Instructions for Fly-Fishing, and the various sorts of Flies proper to be used for every Month in the Year.</i>	67
CHAP. XXI.	<i>Modern Catalogue of Flies, No. I.</i>	82
CHAP. XXII.	<i>Modern Catalogue of Flies, No. II.</i>	90
CHAP. XXIII.	<i>Modern Catalogue of Flies, No. III.</i>	103
CHAP. XXIV.	<i>A Receipt for making Broth of Perch, Roach, Dace, Gudgeons, Bleak, or Minnows.</i>	105

P R E F A C E,

O R,

EPISTLE DEDICATORY.

BROTHER ANGLERS,

AT the particular request of several gentlemen, I have written the following Treatise on Angling, in order to instruct our younger brethren in the so much desired Art of Paste and Fly-fishing, and both in the most curious manner. If they do but follow the method I have here set down exactly, they will be expert artists in a short time; so that, either in Winter or Summer, they may take, at times, a good dish of fish. There are likewise so many anglers deficient in the true manner of catching fish, especially in the New River, and in most rivers elsewhere in England, that, for want of such judgment, they go home with little or no sport; and then seldom care to follow the diversion any longer, being angry with the poor innocent fish, for not bicing at their bad tackle and worse method of alluring them: and indeed, it is no wonder they have such bad success, when the intire reason of it proceeds from their want of better skill. For about thirty years I have followed the method I here give directions in: if therefore any one should chuse to be better

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informed

informed, wishing to be experienced in this most pleasant and most innocent diversion, let him observe to an exactness all that is set down in this book, and he will find in the end his expectations answered. I do not write this Tract to inform those who are artists already, but those only, who desire to be informed, and actually want such instructions. As for critic and ill-natured conceited men, let them lay aside this book, as not being intended for such; though, indeed, some old artists may find many things in the sequel which may prove not only useful, but entirely new to them, and what they never thought of before. Still I doubt not but my observations will meet with some carping men: if so, I despise such. What I have here laid down is grounded on my own experience, and not borrowed from books; neither have I consulted any man in the whole Tract. Whatever errors may therefore be found in it, I hope will stand excused, no man being infallible nor free from mistakes and censure. So wishing you more pleasure in reading than I have had in compiling it; wishing also that all health and happiness may attend you; I remain,

BROTHER PISCATOR,

Your very humble servant,

RA. COLE;

Chub



Trout



Grayling



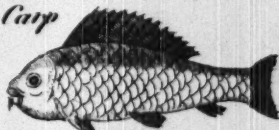
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Carp



Bream



Tench



Pearch



Eel



Mincow



Gudgeon



Bleak



Barbel



Dace



Loach



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Roach



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COMPLETE ART OF ANGLING.

C H A P. I.

Making of Whipping Rods.

THE fittest kinds of wood for this purpose are the Hazel, Black-Thorn and White-Thorn, which must be gathered about the end of December, when the sap is gone down and properly condensed. With a sharp knife cut off all the twigs and knots; while the wood is yet green, and scrape off the bark from the Black and White-Thorn, with the back of your knife; but observe that the bark of the Hazel must be left on. Having thus far prepared your wood, place it in a chimney corner, where a constant fire is kept, and there
let

ler it remain for the space of a week. When it is sufficiently dried, rub those parts from which you cut the twigs and knots with a sand-stone or a fine file, till you have made the whole smooth and even. You must be particularly careful that the pieces are perfectly straight, and, if they should not be so naturally, they may be made so by heating them for some time over a slow charcoal fire, and placing them afterwards in a thick board with holes in it, such as we see in the cane-shops; the several joints, also, must be made to tally exactly with each other. The rod is usually formed of three joints, distinguished by the names of the butt or stock (which is the largest and is held in the hand) the middle-piece and the top: the length of the rod depends wholly upon that of the line; but I commonly use one, of which the three joints are each about a yard long, and may, consequently be concealed under my coat when I am so inclined. With a rod of this size I can throw or deliver a line twelve or fourteen yards long, which is a sufficient length for the New River or any other river of which I have knowledge. The joints must be fitted to each other, being previously cut for that purpose, the butt to the length of about three inches, and the other

two each proportionably less, from the smallest end ; and they must be fastened together with shoemaker's wax, and then tied over with thread doubly waxed with the same, or, if in the winter, with good bees-wax ; remembering that the thread which fastens the butt to the middle-piece must be stronger in proportion than the rest. To the end of the top-joint fit a piece of white whale-bone, which you must bind to it with fine silk, waxed as above. Instead of a loop of hair, use one of brass wire, and you will then never be in danger of your line loosening from the rod. According to the length of the line you fish with, your rod must be either more or less taper. Besides the woods mentioned at the beginning of this article, Hawthorn and Elm, (the young shoots of each kind of wood are to be preferred) make good tops, and the Crab-tree is excellently adapted to the making of butts. Sticks of a proper length, and in every respect fit for making rods, are at all times to be met with in the shops of those who sell canes.

C H A P. II.

In what manner to make a curious sort of single-haired lines; with various particulars concerning hooks and shot.

HORSE-HAIR, either from the mane or tail, and Goat's-hair best answer this purpose. They should be of a white or pale dun colour, exceeding fine, transparent, perfectly round, and free from knots. To judge of the goodness of the hair, you must stretch it gently to its full length; but remember to avoid the too common practice of wetting it; as a rotten hair when wetted, will frequently bear stretching with one of the best quality. The hook is to be fixed to the small end of the hair, with a piece of fine waxed Belladine silk; but, when you are become a thorough proficient in the method of fastening it on, you should make use of a hair instead of silk, which is apt to rot in the water; a learner should also chuse a large hook and thick line for this purpose, in preference to those of a smaller and finer size. Hold the hook in your left hand, with the bent part between your fore finger and thumb, and the end of your line lying exactly under

under the shank part: then pass the silk several times round the line and the hook, beginning at the shank and ending near the bent part; and, with what remains of the silk, make a noose or slip knot, which you must pull close to the hook, and then cut off the jagged end of the line. If you are inclined to lengthen your line, you must take another single hair, and lay one end of it under the end of that to which the hook is fixed, leaving a length of about two or three inches. Then, turning the hairs into the form of a bow or circle, pass the ends through twice, and draw them quite close; after which you may cut off the loose hair that remains, but at a proper distance from the knots. This is called the *Water Knot*, and is the best of the kind for a single-haired line. By this method you may extend your line to any length you please, according to the depth of water in which you propose to angle; observing always that the hair which is fixed to your rod, though of a certain degree of fineness, must still be stronger than any of the others. When you fish with paste, the distance between the float and the end of your rod must not be more than twelve inches, to enable you to strike true. In small Rivers you may angle with
a fine-

a fine-haired line ; but in such places as are infested with reeds, or where the fish are of a larger size, you must use the roundest and strongest hairs you can procure ; otherwise you will be liable to lose your line with every bite. He, however, who fishes fine, in which the chief art of angling lies, has far the best prospect of success. Your shot must be of a very small size, cleft in the middle, and fixed to your line at the distance of about six inches from the hook : you must likewise remember always to make a noose at the upper part of your line.

CH A P. III.

Of Floats.

THESE should be made of duck or wood-pigeon quills, and may be dyed or not, according to your fancy. The composition used for the purpose of dyeing is the dust of Brazil wood, boiled either in fair water or urine, which gives them a beautiful red colour. Before the liquor grows cold, you must throw in a small piece of roach allum, in order to fix the colour. Cut off the ends of the quills with great care, that your floats may match
with

with the utmost exactness ; and put the ends thus cut off one within another, after you have rubbed them thoroughly with warm shoemaker's wax. You may likewise make plugs of wood, both for the single and double plugged floats ; rubbing them over with wax, as above, before you fix them in the quills. The double-plugged floats are best adapted for angling in the New River, which abounds with Bleak ; a fish particularly troublesome to paste-fishers, by snatching off the bait before it reaches the proper depth ; the single-plugged float will be of most service in angling there. The latter of these floats requires but one float to be fixed to it ; but to the former you must use several, in proportion to its size.——I have thus instructed you, to the best of my abilities, in the method of making your own tackle ; but, if you should prefer buying it from the shops, you will there meet with it in the greatest variety, and of the best quality.

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The following Method of SMELT FISHING has never been before treated on.

THIS fish, like the Salmon, is to be found in Rivers that communicate with the Sea, and like them come to spawn in the freshest, but never go further than the tide runs, and return to Sea in the Summer months, being in season from November to May, or longer if the weather is cool. They are to be fished for in eddies, sterns of ships, lighters, the end of logs, and in London at Perry's Dock, Limehouse, Rotherhithe, &c. They very seldom are angled for above London or Rochester bridges, (above bridge, as is termed.) The best time for them is an up-tide, till one hour after high water. Your bait should be pieces of small eels, about the size of a grey pea, or one of their own species cut in the like manner: Your line should be strong gut, about fourteen feet, with six or seven hooks on, and fish at bottom, the largest being there.

CHAP.

C H A P. IV.

*Containing Instructions for angling with Paste
and Worms.*

BEFORE I proceed to lay down rules for becoming a proficient in this agreeable art, I must beg leave to observe to the young beginner, for whose use this is particularly calculated, that he must not lose sight of those two capital requisites in an angler, patience and perseverance; nor suffer himself to be at any time discouraged by the want of success, or disgusted by the good fortune of those who may be manifestly his inferiours in skill.

The season for angling commences in June, and the proper hours are the dawn of day, and three o'clock in the afternoon; at which times the fish in the New River, Ponds, and small Rivers, are accustomed to feed; which places I recommend to the learner to make his first essays in. His rod should be from twenty to twenty-four feet long, and so contrived as to be put into a bag, when taken to pieces; both for the convenience of carriage, and for the sake of the additional strength of the joints. It should be

perfectly straight, sufficiently, but not too taper, and not too heavy: the butt should be of Dogwood, and the other joints of White Cane, unstained, with two or three tops of the same wood, and one top thicker than the rest, and strengthened in different parts with White Whalebone, which is tougher and less brittle than the Black: the slenderest tops are to be used in angling for Roach, and those of the largest sort for Perch, Carp, Chubb, or any fish of a similar size: but when you fish in small Rivers, you will find a rod consisting of three joints only to be of a sufficient length. Having first washed your hands, you may proceed to make your paste in the following manner: Take the crumb of a roll, one day old; soak it in warm water, or milk, till it is thoroughly moistened; then, having pressed out all the liquor, knead it with your thumb into a proper consistence, neither too stiff nor too moist: to this you may add a small quantity of mild Cheshire cheese, finely grated. For this purpose warm water is preferable to cold; as it gives the paste a better consistence, and causes it to stick the more firmly to the hook. A useful paste may also be made, according to the foregoing directions, with the best white household bread; omitting

omitting the cheese, if you chance to have any antipathy to that kind of food. Naples Biscuit likewise makes a very good paste. You must provide yourself with a good quantity of crumb of bread for ground-bait, which, after being well chewed, you must throw into the water, in very small bits, every two or three minutes; otherwise you may overfeed the fish, and so have but little sport. A westerly, or a south-westerly wind is the most favourable to anglers; and this circumstance must be strictly attended to in the winter season, although in summer it is of little or no consequence to your sport from what part of the compass the wind may chance to blow. As soon as day-light appears, repair to your post; and having plumbd your depth, to within half an inch or one inch of the bottom, of which you will be enabled to judge by your float's sinking wholly under water to the above depth, you may then bait your hook with a very small bit of paste, and begin to angle: making use of the whole length of your rod: it will be proper to furnish yourself with two plummets, lest by any accident you should lose one of them. You must also observe to keep the most profound silence whilst angling, as you will otherwise greatly

hinder your success. Throw in three or four lumps of your ground-bait exactly on the spot where you plumbd your depth ; first chewing it to a proper consistence. When you observe your float either to sink, to mount higher than ordinary, or to fall sideways on the surface of the water, in any of these cases you may conclude that you have a bite, and must strike smartly, or, with a quick motion of your wrist only. In fishing for Bleak, you must use a small line, single-plugged float, and a louse-hook ; but not one of the smallest size : the most proper depth is from twelve to sixteen inches below the surface. For Roach-fishing a larger line is required, with float and hook proportionable. Having hooked either a Roach, Chub, Dace, or any other fish of a like size, instantly raise the top of your rod nearly to a perpendicular, at the same time inclining the butt-end gently towards the ground, but without touching it. Be not too much in a hurry to see your fish, but keep him under the bow or bent of the top of your rod, play him deep, and, when he is wearied and spent, he will rise of himself to the surface, lying flat on his side ; and may thus be easily taken out, either with a landing-net or with your hand. By a proper attention to these

these rules, you may *drown*, in the language of anglers, the largest Roach, Dace, or Chubb. Observe that the sort of ground-bait to be used in rapid and deep waters is different from that already described, and is to be made with slices of bread sufficiently soaked in warm water, which should afterwards be pressed out of it, and as much bran or pollard must be mixed with the bread as will make the whole of a proper stiffness. In every piece of this bait which you use put a stone of a proper size, to prevent its being carried away by the stream when it reaches the bottom: some add clay to it when they angle in the Thames, or in any other water which has a strong current. Graves, an article sold by the tallow-chandlers, is also a favourite ground-bait with some persons; but I never used it, except when angling for Barbel. To take these fish, you must have a very strong rod and line, with a bullet at the end, and a large hook, well-bearded, and baited with a good sizeable lob-worm, or a lump of gentles: the line should be made of three hairs neatly twisted together, and whipped with a piece of waxed silk; and a hook of the right Kirby kind, full-sized, whetted quite sharp at the point, and fastened to the end of the line either with a strong single hair,

hair, or a fine link of silk-worm gut, or Turkey grafs. These fish are frequently taken in the parts contiguous to London Bridge. In this part of the Thames, if you angle for large Roach or Dace, your bait must be gentles; but higher up the river, about Staines and the places adjacent, you may use indifferently both gentles and paste, either in summer or winter. As the fish are, in general, larger, and the current more rapid in the River Lea than in the New River, the line which you use in the former must, consequently, be stronger and of a greater length, and your hook larger than those which serve for angling in the latter; and your ground-bait must be made of bread mixed with bran; with a stone in each piece, to keep it at the bottom.

CHAP. V.

Containing Rules for angling for Carp or Barbel, in the New River, or any other water, either still or rapid.

THE season for catching these sorts of fish is the month of July, and the proper hour that of day-break. You must provide yourself three very long rods, having strong tops, and

and with lines of a length proportionate to your rods, made of Indian twist, or strong pearl-coloured silk, and with full-sized Kirby carp-hooks, armed at the bottom links with sea-grass, Turkey grass, or strong silk-worm gut, perfectly free from knots or frettings. Before you begin to **angle**, put the hook between your teeth, and, after rubbing the foot-link next the line briskly with the fore-finger and thumb of your right hand, till it has acquired a sufficient degree of heat for the purpose, make it as straight as possible; and this method you will find much preferable to that formerly in use, of soaking the hook in water. You must remember, in angling for Carp, to use neither lead nor shot. Carp, indeed, are remarkable for their shyness and subtlety. You will find those in the New River, and Ponds, too well fed in general (particularly if they are of a good size) to bite at your bait, unless great art and industry are put in practice to lure them to it. Having fixed on the spot where you propose to angle, repair thither over night, and throw in a good quantity either of paste made with bread and bran, or of the same mixed with lob-worms chopped in small pieces.

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Blood, mingled with grains, will also answer the purpose very effectually. A few large pellets of white paste must be thrown in also, and you must not omit to mark the spot with the utmost attention. This method you must pursue for three successive nights, otherwise you must think your prospect of success will be but small. Begin to angle at break of day; having first plumbed your depth to the greatest exactness. Your bait for your first rod, which bait is to lie at the bottom, must be a well-scoured lob-worm, and you must pass the hook through its body at the distance of about three inches from the tail, that part being far more agreeable to the fish than the head: then throw in a further quantity of ground-bait, precisely on the same spot you baited on the three preceding nights, according to the directions given above. Having gently dropped the worm as exactly as possible on the ground-bait you have thrown in, lay your first rod on the ground, and proceed to bait your second; previously plumbing your depth to within two or three inches of the bottom. The bait for this rod must be four red-worms, properly cleansed, and transfix'd through the head; which I have repeatedly found to excel every other kind of bait for the Carp in
the

the New River. Your third rod must be baited with one or other of the following sorts of paste, all of which, particularly the first are well adapted for this kind of angling: your floats, for each rod, must be of the short single-plugged kind. Take the crumb of white bread, one day old, and soak it in warm milk, till it has imbibed as much as you judge necessary to render it of a due consistence; then press out all the milk, and add to the dough a proper quantity of honey, either yellow or white, to give a sufficient sweetness in flavour; you must likewise mix with it as much saffron, dried before the fire, and rubbed with your finger and thumb to a fine powder, as will tinge it of a colour something deeper than that of lemon-peel: three or four drops of oil of rhodium, which you may purchase at any chemist's or apothecary's, being added to the other ingredients, your paste will then be fit for immediate use. The other paste may be made nearly in the same manner as the foregoing; save that, instead of the honey, for sweetening your dough, you are to substitute loaf-sugar, finely powdered, and are to set aside the saffron and oil of rhodium. Large white or green peas also, well boiled, make a useful bait; but you must throw in a quantity
of

of them, for three or four successive nights, on the spot where you propose to angle, otherwise you will have no sport. Your hooks should be baited with the paste in large pellets, the size of the top of your thumb; as the fish in question are particularly ravenous and greedy. If, after an hour's angling, you perceive that the Carp will not bite at the lobworms, take them off your hook, and substitute one or other of the aforementioned pastes in their place. When you perceive that you have a bite, of which you will judge by your float's gently sliding along, as it lies on its side, and then cocking upright, as also by the bending of the top of your rod, suffer the fish to draw your float under water, in which case you will infallibly hook him. You must then play him deep, according to the rules I have already given you in the Chapter of "Instructions for angling with paste and worms." For, if you neglect this caution, he will certainly *break* you, as we term it, (that is, snap your line) and make his escape. Where a person is desirous of fishing finer than usual, either for Carp or any other large fish, he should have a reel or winch to his rod, by which means he will effectually ward off any accident of the above kind. In angling
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for Carp in a swift current or eddy, you should bait with a lob-worm, or with a dozen gentles, if of a small size, otherwise half that number will be sufficient. Your line and hook must be such as I have already described in the former part of this chapter; and fix to your line a bullet, of a size so proportioned to the stream, as that it may incline to stop within a foot or eight inches of the bottom: but take notice that in this sort of fishing you are not to make use of any float. Barbel, also, may be caught in the manner here set forth. These rules, if properly attended to, will be sufficient for the instruction of the young angler; although I could add several others, but none comparable to the foregoing.

CHAP. VI.

Containing some particulars relating to the manner of angling for Tench,

THE hot months are the proper season for catching this fish, and you should begin your sport as soon as day-light appears. You must angle for them much in the same manner as for Carp, but with finer lines and hooks, and with or without leads or floats, as the water

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chances to be more or less free from weeds. The usual baits are the tail-part of a maiden lob-worm, cut off to the length of two inches; a large well-scoured marsh-worm; a common red-worm; two or three gentles, and a piece of white paste: your baits must be of good size, particularly when you angle for the larger fish. Some fanciful persons have, in their writings on this subject, recommended, that the marsh-worms be dipped in tar-water, which is now greatly in vogue; but I have constantly rejected the method, as wholly useless if not prejudicial. If you have a mind to throw in some ground-bait the over night, blood and graves will best answer that purpose. As Tench generally bite with great freedom and boldness, a less degree of art and skill is consequently required for catching them; but the greater the number is of rods and lines you employ on the occasion, the better will be your prospect of success, especially if they do not chance to be in a humour to feed at that time.

C H A P. VII.

Containing rules for catching Perch.

THESE fish are taken at two different times of the year; the first season commences in February or March, when they are full of spawn, yet well-tasted, and the other in July or August. Gloomy weather, attended with mizzling showers, and a strong and blustering south or westerly wind, are most favourable to the angler in this kind of fishing. He should make choice of the deepest and most ruffled waters, and should repair to his post about ten o'clock in the morning in winter, and at sun-rise during the warmer season. His rod should be of a considerable degree of length, with a top-joint something stronger than those which are used for paste-fishing. If he angles for the smaller or middle-sized Perch, he should furnish himself with a line made either of a strong single hair, of very fine silk, or lastly of Indian twist; but, if the larger fish be his object, the line must be of that sort which is formed of three hairs neatly twisted together: his hooks and floats also must be of sizes proportioned to those of the fish which they are designed to take; but, in

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angling for the small Perch, he must use no float, one single shot only, and that sort of hook which is known by the name of the middle-sized Roach-hook being sufficient. The usual bait for larger fish are small Minnows, four or five blood-worms, common red-worms, marsh-worms, or brandlings, and the tail part of a maiden lob-worm. The foregoing are to be used during the first season of Perch-fishing; but from the commencement of the latter season you must bait, for the above-sized fish, either with Gudgeons, Minnows or Loaches, very small Roach or Dace, or the belly-part of those fish cut in pieces, small green and yellow frogs, Bleak, which by their shining colours greatly attract these fish; or lastly with a bunch of gentles: blood-worms, red-worms, and shrimps, boiled or raw, are the best bait, particularly for small perch. You must likewise angle at various depths, according to the season of the year, and the places you fix on for the scenes of your diversion. In winter you should plumb your depth to the distance of from one to four inches from the bottom; except near the sides of the Narrow River, where you must plumb to the distance of about three inches. When you bait with any of the live-fish abovementioned, you must

run

run your hook under the middle part of the back fin, carrying it on till it has nearly reached the head of the creature, and carefully avoid the bone, lest you kill your bait, in which condition the Perch would not meddle with it: some unskilful persons thrust the hook through the mouth of the bait, instead of pursuing the method here recommended. Having plumbed your depth and baited your hook, drop the line gently into the water, where it must be kept in continual motion, to entice the Perch to bite. When this is effected, you must wait a minute or two before you strike, otherwise the fish will not pouch the bait, but, after that interval, if you strike smartly you will seldom fail of hooking him. If these fish do not bite freely, you may disturb the bottom of the water either with a long rake or pole, or by repeatedly throwing in quantities of red gravel, with which you must be previously provided, together with stones and earth. Perch, however, are in general an undaunted fish, and require little pains to be taken to lure them to the bait. In angling for the smaller sort you may sink your bait to the bottom; often dragging it along the ground, and now and then raising it to the surface.

C H A P. VIII.

Shewing the method of catching Crasoes, or Crucians.

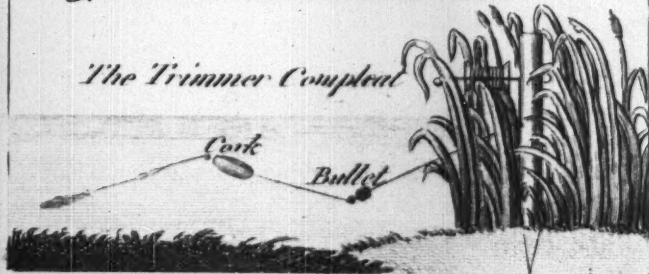
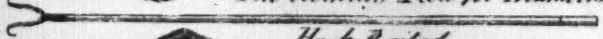
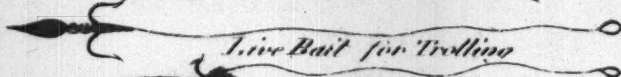
THESE are a pond fish, and were scarce known in England till of late years, though they now are become very plentiful with us. They are of a species between the Carp and the Bream, and taste nearly as well as the Perch. You must angle for them with tackle somewhat less fine than for Roach, and with the same bait as for Carp and Tench. They are sometimes met with in the New River, of pretty large size and good quality.

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C H A P. IX.

*Containing the best method of angling for
Bream.*

THERE is little difference in the rules for catching this fish and those I have already laid down for taking Carp. Your tackle should be finer than what is commonly used for Carp, and you should angle as nearly as possible in the middle of the stream, if in a river; and at the like distance from each side, if in a pond or lake; in which pieces of water also, this fish is sometimes found. He may be taken with a blue-bottle fly, either by whipping or in the common method, with paste or gentles.

*The last new and most approved Method of TROL-
LING and TRIMMER FISHING, found by
Experience to afford much greater Sport than any
other now in practice.*

YOU should have a fish-kettle to keep your baits alive. First, In baiting your hook, be careful that you run your needle between the skin and fish, entering at the shoulder to the tail of your fish; for by tearing the bait, it soon dies and then becomes useless. Your hook
must

must be a strong single one, the size of the trolling hook, tied to a strong gimp a foot long. Your line should be either a strong silk or a Cod line, about thirty yards in length, with a loop at the end large enough to unloop a Pike, or any other voracious fish: First, Put on the bullet, to run free on your line: About two feet from your loop place a large shot, big enough to keep the bullet from the cork, in order that the cork may run free on the line one foot; at that distance place another shot, to keep your cork from interrupting your bait. Make the other end of your line fast round the bobbin which runs free on a wire that is made fast to the stake, which should be about a foot long: You should have a strong rod, to serve either as a clearing hook or landing net, made to screw in the end of the rod. When you lay your Trimmer, drive the stake into some harbour, to secure it from the eye of passengers who may interrupt: Then bait the hook as before mentioned. Make use of your rod to guide the bait to the place where it must lay clear from weeds, that the bait may shew itself. Make use of them from September to January, when the
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Pike are in deep waters in most of our rivers, such as the river Lee, Woodford, Severn, and many others in this Kingdom, standing Lakes, &c. &c. Remember the last thing to be done, is to bait the hook that the fish may be preserved alive as long as possible. In baiting Trimmers there is no occasion to tie the tail with thread as in Trolling, the bait not having any strain on that part, and is fairer to the eye of the Jack. There should be a notch in the stake to hitch the line gently to, that it may not run so far with the stream.

The GORGE HOOK

is mostly used in Summer Trolling, when the weeds are strong on the shore where the Pike lay, to strike as they are playing among the weeds. At that season of the year you must, in baiting your hook, enter the needle into the mouth of the bait, and draw the gimp out of the tail, tying it fast round the wire of your hook with a piece of thrum silk or worsted; there is no danger then of the weeds injuring your bait, which should be either Bleak, Dace, Gudgeon, or small Roach, bending

ing it a little to make it glance in the water. The Gorge Hook is so common, it needs no further description. You should have a strong silk line, thirty or forty yards in length, wound on a bobbin or winch, made fast on your rod, which should be sixteen or eighteen feet in length, with a stiff top, and rings for your line to run through. The most likely shores to find Pike are those near a deep water, where there is a strong harbour to retreat to at other seasons of the year, where you should not pass by without Trowing; for in general the largest fish lay in the eddies and deep mucky waters, but they mostly run on the shore at that season under the tail of the long winter weeds. The best method of taking the hook out of a Pike, is to unloop the line from the gimp on the hook; then by pulling it tight it draws the hook near the gill, and may be easily cut out of the pouch.

The BEARD HOOK,

BY some Anglers, is preferred before any other in Winter Trolling, in deep water, when the weeds are rotten and not liable to injure the

the bait ; for by its alluring motion in the water, by glancing about, it often causes the Pike to strike at a greater distance at the bait than when the water is clear. In baiting you hook be careful in serving the mouth of your bait fast to the beard of the hook, for sometimes the Pike will strike at your bait when the line is not free to run, and by that means you lose your bait. Use this from October to the latter end of February, or the beginning of March, when the Pike are spawning and going out of season.

The LIVE BAIT.

BY some it is thought that the live bait is far superior to any dead bait ; and there are many that use it, though attended with some trouble in Summer Trolling, to keep the bait alive: By frequently dipping your bait-kettle in the water when you are going any considerable distance from where you first began ; but if you are Trolling in any Pond or Lake, you may then sink your bait-kettle in the place near which you are Trowling, and by that means you may keep your bait alive, and there is no doubt but you will meet with good sport. Your hook

hook must be tied to a gimp a foot long, like that of the trimmer, hooked fast to the back fin of your bait.

CHAP. X.

Containing Instructions for catching Pike:

THE audacity and voraciousness of this fish justly entitle him to the name which he has acquired of the fresh-water shark. You angle for him much in the same manner as for Perch; but with a line twice as strong as that used for taking the biggest of that species of fish; with a large Kirby pike-hook, armed upon gimp, which is far preferable to wire for that purpose; and with a cork float of a size proportioned to the rest of your apparatus: the top-joint of your rod must be twice the size of that used in angling for Carp. You may bait your hook either with a good sized Roach, Dace, Gudgeon, Rudd (which is a bastard kind of Roach) or a small Carp or Tench; but what I would chiefly recommend for this purpose is a Crucian, about five or six inches in length or something longer, which, by repeated experience, I have found to be more

largeable

like a greeable to the palate of the Pike than any
other sort of bait whatsoever: the Rud, I
think, stands in the next degree of estimation.
Both these fish, though not in great plenty,
are to be found in ponds at some distance from
London; and the Rud, like the true Roach,
may be caught either with gentles or paste.
In the months of March and August a large
species of yellow or greenish frog is likewise
used as a bait for the fish on which I am now
treating. When you have plumbed to the dis-
tance of half the depth from the surface, drop
your line in very gently; taking particular
care that your bait be alive and in full vigour;
as on this circumstance depends, in a great mea-
sure, the whole of your success. Whenever
you perceive that you have a bite, suffer the
fish to keep your float under water for the
space of one minute, then strike with two
smart jerks, in order to fix the hook securely
in his mouth: if he chances to be of a large
size, play him for some time, otherwise you
may pull him out immediately. I must re-
mind you once more of the necessity of your
angling for this fish with a bait that is per-
fectly lively and swims strong; as with such I
have frequently met with great success, when
the common methods of using towing, trim-
mers

mers and men of war, and of laying lines, have all failed. You may fish then ineffectually with a dead bait a very considerable length of water in the course of a day; but with one that is alive, if the Pike, when you have thrown in your line, does not take it quickly, you should remove from thence to another part; this fish being noted for biting almost immediately, if at all. His usual hours of feeding are about two o'clock in the morning, and four in the afternoon; and his chief haunts near the banks of rivers, among the weeds, rushes and reeds; in wharfings, deep holes, eddies, scours, and shallows; under stumps of trees, and at the mouths of rills or ditches, where they discharge themselves into the river: he may be taken either in summer or winter, but the latter season is the fittest; and a strong boisterous wind will greatly favour your sport. Few of this fish are to be met with in the New River; so that these directions may be equally adapted to every kind of water.

C H A P. XI.

Containing Instructions for catching Trout.

THIS fish commonly bites with great freedom, if the tackle and baits you make use of are

are chosen with judgment. Trout may be taken either in the common method, or by whipping with flies, both natural and artificial; and for the purpose of taking trout by flies you must follow the directions, which you will find in page 40, for catching Chubb and Dace. In the common mode of angling, your rod must be furnished with a stout top-joint; and your line should be made either of Indian twist, or sea-grass; observing to proportion the length of the line to the size of your rod. When you angle for this fish at the bottom, on the Drabble, let your line be loaded by a bullet, with a hole drilled through it, in order that it may slip up and down, and two shot placed at the distance of three inches asunder; the upper one supporting the bullet; the size of which must be adapted to the degree of rapidity of the water in which you fish. In a gentle stream you may angle without a bullet; and use two or three shot, or as many as the strength of the current shall require. Bait your hook either with two or three large well-scoured Marsh-worms (by some called Brandlings) Minnows, small Frogs, three or four Caddice (for a description of which see the following Chapter) or half a dozen of Ant flies. When you find that you have a bite,

you must conduct yourself according to the directions I have before given you on that subject, in the Chapter on Perch-fishing. The larger Trout are to be taken with most success in a dark night, with a stout rod, and a line of sufficient strength but not too coarse, baited with two large lob-worms; dapping there-with (which term you will find explained at large in page 20.) on the surface of the water; but observe that this method is to be pursued in fishing for the over-grown Trout alone. The proper season for these are the months of April and May.

C H A P. XII.

Shewing the proper methods of angling for Gudgeons.

THIS fish, though small, is the best flavoured of the whole finny tribe next to the smelt; and will afford you no small amusement in taking him, if you pay due attention to the following rules. Gudgeons are found, in great plenty, in the New River, small Rivers, River Lea, and generally in most running waters. Those in the River Lea are of a size superior to any others taken

taken in the environs of London. They usually secrete themselves under weeds, in rough water, such as the parts about sluices, grates, and eddies; and among the sedge growing at the sides of rivers; particularly during the spawning season, which commences at the end of April and ends about the same time in May. They are best tasted when full of spawn, which term includes the latter part of March and one half of the month of April. The rods you make use of for taking this fish, should be in general of a small size, and your line a very single horse-hair, either from the main or tail, or of goat's hair. Your hooks must be very small, to the number of three or four on a line, and placed at the distance of six inches from each other. A curious double-placed float, and small shot, fixed at about three inches from the hook, will best answer your purpose in the present instance. The depths at which you are to angle will vary, according to the season of the year, the nature of the water, and other circumstances; all which you will find minutely specified in this Chapter; and this observation you must bear constantly in mind, in the choice of your baits, rods, lines, and all the rest of your apparatus. When you fish in the New River, or small

Rivers, in the early season, by which I mean the months of March and April, your rod must be small, your tackle proportionably fine, of a single horse or goat's hair, your bait a blood-worm, and you must plumb to the bottom, or very near it; and you may also throw in bread, as ground-bait: the common method of disturbing the bottom with a rake must now be disused, as being adapted to the warmer season alone. The rules for angling for gudgeons in May differ in several material particulars from the foregoing. They are now to be sought for at half-water, which is the depth equally distant from the surface and from the bottom, and the bait which they prefer before all others is the Caddice or Case-worm; of which I shall give you a particular description, accompanied with an interesting observation or two, when I have described the manner of angling with it. Having separated the head from the body, take the latter and thrust your hook into it, beginning at the upper part, and bringing the point out nearly at the end of the tail. Your line must be a fine single hair, with three or four hooks on it, all baited according to the above directions; and you cannot, in my opinion, fail of success. But I shall now discharge the promise

ich I promise which I recently made you, relative
your to the description of this small but curious
nably worm. The Caddice is one of those little
your reptiles which, at a certain period, quit their
to the vermicular state and assume that of a fly. The
also title of Case-worm has been given to this, in
nmon our eyes, despicable creature, with reference
rake to the mansion which the all-wise and benefi-
o the cent Creator of the universe has allotted it,
gling as a preservative from the numerous dangers
terial to which, from his extreme imbecility, he
are must otherwise have been constantly exposed.
ich is This mansion or case, as it is termed, is com-
and posed of a substance resembling straw mixed
pre- with small pieces of wood, and covered with
e or a glutinous matter, by means of which the
par- entrance of the water is prevented and the ma-
inte- terials of the little fabric are firmly cemented
e de- together: a number of pebbles, also, are con-
Hav- stantly found adhering to its sides, and, by
take their weight, serve to sink and to detain it at
gin- the bottom: the case, which at first is no
point larger than a blade of common hay-grass, con-
line tinually encreases in bulk, in proportion to the
four growth of its inhabitant. These worms are
bove to be met with in great numbers, at the proper
ion, season, under the banks of most rivers. The
the ingenuity of the curious and learned has been
mise frequently

frequently exercised on the subject before us; but all their researches have been, hitherto, attended with little success. In July and August bait either with a blood-worm, the tail of a common red-worm, or the same part of a green or yellowish grasshopper, with which the fields abound at this season; and which is now preferable to all other baits, both for Roach and Dace as well as gudgeons. You must fix it on your hook in the same manner as I have directed for Caddice. During the above months vast quantities of the green silk-weed are found floating in the Narrow River, which at once destroy your sport, and also give the fish so rank a flavour, that the few which you may accidentally take, by dipping or dapping, will scarcely be eatable. I shall now instruct you in the right method of *drabbling*, as it is termed in the Piscatorian dialect, for Gudgeons. For this purpose you must be furnished with two curious small-sized rods, with top-joints as taper as possible. Your line must be of fine single-hair, and your hooks proportionably small. A large No. 1, or No. 1. shot, with a hole bored exactly through the middle, that it may be slipped up and down when necessary, must be placed on your line, and you must fix a small cleft shot, four or
five

five inches above the hook; to keep the large one mentioned above, at a proper distance from it. Plumb your depth to the bottom, and, having baited with the tail of a Caddice and the same part of the green grasshopper, on separate hooks, throw in your two lines, the one in the mid-stream, the other near the sides. Three or four hooks may be fixed on each line, but, in that case, the cleft shot which supports the large one must be placed at a greater distance from the bottom of the line. The most general bait for Gudgeons, except in the instances already specified, are blood-worms and white paste.

C H A P. XIII.

Shewing how to take Eels in the common way.

EELS may be caught in most of the rivers and large standing waters in England. In the New River they do not appear till June, but elsewhere the season for them commonly commences in March and ends about the beginning of November. They are usually found under bridges and in all such places as offer them the least prospect of shelter; and in navigable rivers at the sterns of ships. The fittest time for

of angling for them is during the night, when they are chiefly accustomed to feed; but, in the hot months, they will bite with a degree of freedom; as far as their natural shyness will permit, in the day-time also: at the flux and reflux of the tide you may fish in the Thames with great probability of success. After violent storms of thunder and rain, when the water is become foul and muddy, they will eagerly take the bait; but observe that you must expect little sport in moon-light nights, as at those times they feed with great reluctancy. Rods are used but seldom for catching these fish; and the lines with which you must furnish yourself are of a different kind from all those which I have hitherto described. These must be made of strong small-cord, and of different lengths, according to the depth and force of the current; and must be either loaded with bullets or not, as the place in which you angle chances to be either a standing or a running water. The foot-link to which your hook is fastened must be joined to your line with a running noose, that it may be put on and off at pleasure. When you fish for Eels in any large standing water, you must bait either with Gudgeons, small Roach, or Pace, Minnows, Stone Loaches, or small yel-

low

low Frogs, but of these the Stone Loaches should be preferred: your bait must be quite fresh, and if alive the fitter for the purpose. Take a large needle, made of wire, with an eye made to it of a proper size. Pass the upper part of your foot-link through the eye of the needle, and thrust the sharp end of it, together with the strait part of your hook, into the mouth of the bait, bringing them out at the tail; the beard and point of your hook lying on one side of the creature's mouth. Having in this manner baited as many lines as you intend to use on the occasion, lay them in rings on the brink of the pond, and then throw each of them in nearly to the whole extent of its length; reserving a small part, which must lie loose upon the ground, that the fish, when he has taken your bait, may be at liberty to swim to some distance before he pouches it, as he will otherwise infallibly relinquish his hold. By the above method I once caught an Eel in the New River on a spot directly opposite to Sadler's Wells, which weighed seven pounds, and was of the true silver kind. A large lob-worm, which has been previously kept in moss for five or six days, will sometimes tempt these fish to bite, when all the live bait above described may

may chance to fail. In the New River, you must angle with lines not more than three or four yards long, loaded with a small bullet, and baited in the manner above directed; but in the River Lea, which is more rapid than the other, a greater weight of lead will be required for your lines: in this last river you may also possibly hook a sizeable Barbel, Chubb or Flounder, while angling for the fish which makes the subject of this Chapter. In the hot months the fittest baits are boiled shrimps, either shelled or otherwise, square pieces of raw, or boiled salt beef; particularly the latter, and with these you may fish in the Thames, either under the sterns of the ships, or as near as possible to the bridge. Here you must make use of a shooting line, made of strong small-cord, of a great length, with two dozen of the best Eel-hooks fixed on with double hog's bristles, a noose to each bristle, and loaded with two or three pounds weight of lead; if you substitute periwinkles and gentles in the place of the shrimps and gentles, and fish proportionably finer, you may catch some very large-sized Roach and Dace. Should you be at any time inclined to angle for these fish with rods and lines, you must observe the following rules. Your rods should

should be of a middling size, not too long, with a stiff top-joint to each, and three in number, Strong silk, or Carp-lines, with three large Perch-hooks to each, fixed on with double hog's bristles, will best answer your purpose. Each hook must be baited with the head of a very fresh Bleak or Gudgeon; the beard and point of your hook being forced quite through, otherwise you will constantly lose your bait: the hooks must be placed at a due distance from each other, to preserve the line from being entangled. With one of your rods you must angle in the mid-stream, and with the others near to the sides. Bait with pieces of the belly-part either of Roach, Dace, or Lampreys; Bleak and Gudgeons being also very eligible for this purpose; but in small Rivers I have frequently found the head of a Bleak excel every other kind of bait whatever. The proper time of angling in the manner here described is by day in the months of June, July and August.

C H A P. XIV.

Shewing how to sniggle for Eels.

FURNISH yourself with several lines, lest any of them should chance to be broken. They

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must

must be made of chalk-line, or middle-sized whip-cord not twisted too strongly, and of the length of two to three yards. Take a short but thick needle, thoroughly tempered, and break off the head part. Sharpen the remaining part to a point, but it must not be too fine. Whip your line to the needle, half way and no further towards the middle. Take a well-scoured lob-worm, and thrust the point of the needle through the creature, from head to tail; drawing the head a little way up your line, in order to cover the broken part of the needle, and leaving a small portion of his tail loose, the better to deceive the fish with an appearance of the whole body being equally free. Coil the upper end of your line several times round your left hand, that, when you have a bite, you may be able to give the fish some play, in order to induce him to pouch your bait. Thrust either a common switch, or the piece of whalebone which is at the end of the top-joint of your rod into the head of your bait, and therewith guide it carefully to the blow or hole where you suppose the Eel to lie concealed; holding your line rather loosely, lest you tear it through the body of the worm. When you perceive that you have a bite, of which you will judge
by

by the worm being taken off the whalebone, allow the Eel a sufficient time to pouch your bait, after which you may strike twice, with a quick motion but not too hard, as you will otherwise endanger your line; and by this method you will fix the needle in a cross direction in his body. If he does not come from his hole immediately, keep your line tight, and he will soon find himself compelled to dislodge; and, the instant you observe him to relax of his obstinacy, drag him to land with all possible dispatch, and discharge the needle from his body.

C H A P. XV.

Containing Instructions for Whipping, both with natural and artificial Baits.

THIS method of angling may be practised with success, for different kinds of fish, throughout every month in the year. The proper time of day for it is about eleven o'clock in Winter, and in Summer proportionably earlier, when the sun has acquired a sufficient degree of lustre and strength. The rod to be used for this purpose distinguished by the title of a Fly or Whipping-rod; a description of which

you will meet with, under that title, in the first Chapter of this work. Your line must be made in the manner following. Take four links of fine single horse-tail hairs, with water-knots at the ends, three links of two hairs twisted together, three of three hairs, two of four, one of five, two of six, and three of eight hairs. These links must be whipped one to the other, in the same manner as you whip a hook, with fine silk waxed with shoemaker's wax; the whole forming one compleat and curious line. A young Angler will, at first, find some difficulty in delivering a line of this length, and may therefore shorten it, by omitting whatever number of the links he shall think proper: the top of your line must be formed into a noose. Your hook must be either of a larger or less size, according to that of the fish for which you angle; and the same rule will serve to direct you, in the choice of your lines and rods also. The chief baits used for this kind of angling are the heads of Caddice taken off as low as the black skin extends, (two or three on a hook for Chubb and Dace, and a single one only for Bleak) all the various species of flies, both natural and artificial, black and brown velvet, and pieces of mens dyed hats; but the best
of

of all these are the Caddice, which I have found in their hiding-places in January, two months prior to the earliest period at which they have ever been discovered by any of my brother anglers. My method of taking them is with a small landing-net, made of the caul of a wig, with a piece of strong wire bent round it; leaving a sufficient length of wire to serve as a handle, which I tie to my cane or walking-stick: I also put a portion of the weeds under which they are found into the bag wherein I keep them. A northern and easterly wind are equally unfavourable, particularly in the colder months, for this kind of angling. Your line being fixed and properly baited, place yourself on the verge of the stream, with your back, if possible, to the wind. Wave the line over your head, in the same manner as a coachman does his whip, and, with a gentle motion of your wrist, cast it sometimes under the opposite bank and sometimes into the middle of the stream. When you observe a circle or a fissure to appear on the surface, instantly strike, and, if the fish you have hooked chances to be of a large size, play him deep for some time before you draw him to shore. If you bait with the heads of the Caddice, which are naturally

tough, you must strike the instant that your line touches the water, and with a greater degree of force : remember to thrust your hook entirely through the heads, or otherwise you must expect little sport. The reason why the fish bite so eagerly at this bait is, that it bears a striking resemblance to a certain dark-coloured fly of which they are particularly fond. I once caught so late in the year as the month of December, in the New River, three dozen and a half of Bleak and Dace, by whipping with a piece of black velvet only; to the great astonishment of many gentlemen who were present at the time: the velvet of this colour is mistaken by the fish for the common black fly, and the brown velvet represents the cow-dung flie. In whipping with a fly, you must suffer the fish to pouch your strike. This method of angling is preferred, by those who are skilled in the art, before all the other kinds; and you may thus take a trout or a salmon with as much facility as you can a Chubb or a Dace, provided your tackle for the former be proportionably stronger: you must, also, in this case, be furnished with a winch or reel, to preserve your line from being broken. But observe that you do not pretend to whip for the large kinds of fish till
you

you have attained to a proficiency in taking those of a smaller size. If you would acquire a degree of perfection in this branch, you must accustom yourself to throw lines of every length, from two to twenty yards and upwards; but, for such as the last-mentioned, your rod must be of the double-handed kind. It is very difficult to throw a line against the wind, or even at those times when there is little or no wind stirring; both these methods are, however, attainable by application and practice, although it would be a vain attempt to communicate to you the proper rules in words. I shall, therefore, only observe that, if the wind chances to blow strongly in your face, every endeavour to throw your line will be fruitless; and that, in both the foregoing cases, your lines and rods must be proportionably stouter and coarser.

C H A P. XVI.

Shewing the proper Method of Dipping or Dapping.

WHEN either the weather is too cold, or the wind too blustering to admit of your angling with any prospect of success in the method described

described in the preceding Chapter, you may try your fortune in Dipping or Dapping, as we term it, according to the subjoined instructions. Your rod must be formed of four or five joints, with a fine taper top; your line of a fine single hair from top to bottom; with a good-sized Roach or Dace-hook, properly bearded and pointed. These directions regard the New River alone; but in all other places, where the fish are larger and the current more rapid, your rod and tackle must be proportionably stronger. If you should be inclined to angle near the side of the river, retire to such a distance from the water's edge as to be out of the view of the fish when they rise to the surface; and, your line being baited either with a natural fly or a grasshopper, according to the season, cast it in; observing constantly to place yourself with your back to the wind: in this manner you may angle either at top, bottom, or at half water, as you shall judge most conducive to your sport. When you have a bite, suffer the fish to pouch your bait before you strike, and then proceed as I have already directed you in that case. In this, as in all other cases of angling, he who fishes fine will always stand the best chance of success, and I remember to have

taken

taken a Chubb and a Trout, with a line made, the whole length, of a fine single hair, the latter of which weighed something more than four pounds, and the other four pounds and a half: the Chubb I took in the New River near Boor's Farm, and the Trout at Merton-Abbey, beyond Wandsworth. In angling with a fly in a deep stream, let your bait float on the surface, and be carried away by the current to whatever distance you think fit: this method may be pursued with success when the baits are too tender to be used for whipping.

C H A P. XVII.

Containing Rules for Winter-fishing.

IN the Winter season the fittest baits for the New River are blood-worms, white paste, and Marsh-worms for the larger fish, and chewed bread for ground-bait. In other places use gentles and worms of all denominations, the brains of a bullock, bruised not chewed, for Chubb; throwing in a certain portion as ground-bait, of which another kind also may be used, made with bread and bran. The best winter-paste is of white bread, mixed with a small quantity of mild Cheshire cheese, grated

grated fine, and coloured with Turmeric or Saffron reduced to a powder: with this paste you may mix another, which is tinged of a deep red with vermillion. This red paste is to be used separately when the water is very foul and muddy. The large fish are, at this season, to be sought for at the bottom, and those of the smaller size at half-water, particularly if the stream chances to be foul.

CH A P. XVIII.

Giving an Account of Natural Flies Moths, Grasshoppers, Gnats, &c.

THESE several denominations of insects are to be found in every month of the year, according to their different species, which are so numerous, that they cannot possibly be particularized in the bounds which I have prescribed to myself. I therefore have specified those only which appeared to me to be the most worthy of attention. You must keep them in a phial, burning a hole through the cork, for the purpose of giving them air, or in a dry box, when they are of a tender sort, and you must sprinkle a small quantity of dust on them, otherwise the moisture, which continually

tinually proceeds from their bodies, when pent up in this manner, will inevitably destroy them in the course of one hour. In baiting your hook with these minute creatures, you must force the beard and point quite through the body, beginning at the head and bringing them out at the rump: you must also be careful to allow the fish a longer time to pouch the bait than you are accustomed to do when angling with the Caddice and the other articles which I have recommended for this purpose. The different kinds which I shall notice here are the following:

A dark-coloured fly, with spreading wings, which first appears about April and continues to the beginning of June, and to which the head of the Caddice bears a most exact resemblance. It is found commonly by the side of rivers.

The cow-dung fly, of which there are four different kinds. The first is of a dark brown colour, inclinable to a red, of a coarse substance, and is much less esteemed by the fish than any of the others. The rest are distinguishable from this and from each other by their colour, and a finer texture of their bodies; the two next being of a pale brown, and the last a dark green. There is also a regular

regular diminution of their size, so that the smallest species are formed by nature of so tender a substance, that they cannot be used for any other purpose than for dipping or dapping. Next to the Caddice, these are the fittest bait for Chubb and Dace.

A very small kind of black fly, which you will find in great numbers in the grass in the month of February: you must make use of two of these for a bait.

The Stone Cad-fly, found in April on the banks of rivers; this, during its season, excels every other kind of bait, either for Whipping or Dipping.

The Drake or true Cad-fly, called by many the May-fly, from the month in which it is in season. This fly is long-shaped and spotted like a snake, with yellow and black spots; its wings are broad and shining, and cock upright, with three long whisks at his tail. You may angle at any depth of water both with this fly and the foregoing, either for Roach, Dace, Trout, or Chubb.

The Ant-fly, both of the black and red sort, is found in little hillocks of loose earth, which they throw up much in the manner of Moles, and which are distinguishable by their colour; some being of a sandy and others of a black,

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a black, according to the different species by which they are inhabited. These flies first make their appearance in June and continue to the end of August.

The Grasshopper, which is in season during the months of June and July, may be made use of with great success; either the whole body or the tail part alone.

Two species of Bugs, the one of a fine green, the other of a dark colour; both of which were first discovered by myself to be fit for the purpose of angling. The first of these is of a very tough substance, and you must force your hook quite through his body, beginning with that part where its junction with the head takes place. The green bug is found, in July and August, on the banks of the rivers, and the other sort among the cow-dung in August to the beginning of November. One of these bugs is a sufficient bait for a small fish, but two must be used for those of a larger size.

The Father-long-legs, the Blue-bottle fly, the large brown Moth, which is found among the sedges next the banks of rivers, and the Drone-bee, whose chief haunt is among the yellow flowers growing by the rivers side, are all excellent baits for the larger kind of fish,

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during the Autumn; and for those of the smaller sort you may make use of the common and lesser-sized house-flie.

The Bloodworm flie, or Gnat is found, from May to the conclusion of the hot months, upon the posts and rails by the rivers side and on the walls of houses. Of this insect there are two kinds, differing from each other in size only. They are long-shaped, and of a grey, inclining to a brown colour, with bright shining wings of a pale green. They are produced from the Blood-worm, and continue for some time in a state which partake in equal measure of both natures. The head of this creature is encircled with a soft substance, greatly resembling the down of a thistle, and its body is too tender to admit of its being kept in a phial, as I have directed for the more hardy species of insects. This is one of the best baits for the New River, throughout the whole of the Summer season.

C H A P. XIX.

Containing the proper Methods for making the various sorts of Artificial Flies.

THE directions which I am about to give you on this subject would become doubly serviceable

serviceable to you, if you could meet with any experienced brother angler who would kindly undertake to make a flie or two in your presence; whereby you would acquire a much clearer idea of the matter than can possibly be conveyed to you in words. But, if you should not be thus fortunate, your own observation and contrivance must supply the want of such assistance; and I trust that you will find the following instructions calculated in the best manner possible to remedy the defect in question. You should, at first, practise upon a large hook, till you have attained to some degree of proficiency in the art, when you may chuse one that is of a smaller size. When you are about to make an artificial flie, lay one of the same species of natural flies before you, and you will thereby be enabled to imitate it with a greater degree of exactness. Having collected a sufficient quantity of hairs, hooks, feathers, down of various kinds, silk and all the other requisites, chuse a large Roach or Perch-hook, and fasten, with waxed silk, to the inside of the shank a single hair, in which you have previously made a slip-knot; to prevent your hook from slipping off the line; at the same time drawing the knot quite close. Then repass the silk, by three or four

wide turns, till you have brought it within a small distance of the shank, but be cautious neither to break nor cut off your silk till you have proceeded further in your work. The wings must be made of a fieldfare or a starling's lightest wing-feather, and of a length proportioned to the size of your hook, to which they must be neatly whipped; lying one on each side of the hook, near its bent, and the small ends of the feathers cocking upright. These ends must be whipped a little between the wings, to make them spread in due proportion as to length and breadth, after which you must fasten your silk tight with one or two slip-knots, and cut off the superfluous parts of the wings. Then pass another piece of the same silk along the straight part of your hook and no further. You must now take as much down or fur as you shall want, of the colour of the fly which you would imitate, and spin or twirl it round the silk fixed upon your hook, using less of it near the bent than at the other end, that your fly may appear properly taper: the body must also be considerably thicker in the middle than at either end. When you have fixed on all the down requisite for your purpose, fasten it with two or three slip-knots at the wing part, and cut off all the useless silk, and also any superfluous

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superfluous hairs that may remain : and thus your work is completed. It is totally needless to make any heads to your flies, as the fish will bite at them as readily without as with that part.

Such artificial flies and other insects as I deem necessary to particularize here are to be made according to the following directions :

The Black fly or Gnat is to be made either with the short hair pulled from the tip of the ear of a coal-black spaniel ; the black down lying close to the skin of a hog ; the wool of a black sheep's foot ; the end of a black cat's tail ; black mohair or the down of a black mole.

The Cow-dung fly must be imitated with the down of a sandy or reddish-coloured hog ; the hair of a dog's ear of the same colour ; of a cow's, cat's, rabbit's or squirrel's hair ; camlet ; mohair ; the yellow wool of a blanket, or of cruel of the above colour.

You may represent the body of the red Ant-fly with two or three small tail-feathers of a pheasant, of a reddish brown colour, wrapt neatly round your hook ; and the black fly of the above species is to be counterfeited with the darker part of the same feather, or rather with those of a female pheasant.

The Camlet-flie, as I have named it, must be made with a piece of camlet of a bright yellow colour combed to pieces with a fine comb, and ribbed with silver twist; wrapping it tightly round your hook. The wings must be of large size, and made of the lightest feathers of a wild mallard. Trout are particularly fond of this bait, and will leap at it to a great height, out of the water.

The May, or the Cad-flie is to be imitated, the body with a deep straw-coloured silk, ribbed with a Pluver's top or Herle; the wings of the lightest feathers of a wild mallard, dyed of a bright yellow at the dyers, and the three whisks of its tail with as many of the feathers of a pheasant. This also is an excellent bait for Trout.

You may represent the body of the brown Moth with the same coloured feathers of a Peacock's wing. The brown feathers of a Cock Partridge's tail will serve to represent the wings of this flie, which must be duely spread and cocked upright.

Before I conclude, it will be proper to observe to you that, in angling with the artificial flies, you must strike the instant you perceive that you have a bite, otherwise the fish will discover the deception and you will inevitably lose him.

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C H A P. XX.

Containing other Instructions for Fly-fishing, and the various sorts of Flies, proper to be used for every Month in the Year.

THE art of making a fly is so necessary to the fishing with success, that (as Sir John Hawkins observes) "he hardly deserves the name of an angler who cannot do it." Tho' in fact, very good flies may be got at the fishing-tackle shops, provided proper directions be given for making them.

As the foundation of Fly-fishing, it may not be improper to give the list of flies for each month in the year, according to the directions of Charles Cotton, Esq; first published in the year 1676, together with such variations as have been made by later proficients, and published by later writers on this subject. Mr. Cotton confesses that few persons beside himself begin fly-fishing in the month of January; yet even in this month he has been successful in taking Grayling. There are but few days in the month fit for the sport, and only an hour or two in the day, during a warm sun.

JANUARY.

JANUARY.

There are no alterations in Cotton's directions for this month, which we therefore give nearly in his own words :

1. A Red-Brown, with wings of the male of a mallard almost white: the dubbing of the tail of a black long-coated cur, such as they commonly make muffs of; for the hair on the tail of such a dog dyes, and turns to a red-brown; but the hair of a smooth-coated dog of the same colour will not do, because it will not dye, but retains its natural colour.

2. The little Bright Dun Gnat. This must be fished with having only one hair next the hook. It is made of a mixt dubbing of Martin's fur, and the white of a hair's scut, with a very white and small wing; and it is no matter how fine you fish, for nothing in this month will rise but a Grayling, and of them I never, in this season, saw any taken with a fly of above a foot long: but of little ones, about the size of a smelt, you may take enough with the two flies abovementioned.

FEBRUARY.

1. The Little Red Brown. The dubbing of this must be somewhat blacker than that of last month, and wrapt on with black silk.

2. A

2. A Plain Hackle, or Palmer-Fly; to be made of black Ostrich herl warped, or tied down to the dubbing with red silk, and the hackle of a red cock over the whole.

3. The Lesser Hackle; which is made with a black body, a silver twist over it, and a red feather.

4. The Great Hackle. The body of this must be black, and wrapped with a red feather of a capon untrimmed. We sometimes barb the hackle-feather all over; sometimes barb it only a little; and sometimes leave the whole length of the feather on the top, or the back of the fly, which makes it swim better, and by which large fish are killed.

5. Gold Twist Hackle. Ribbed with gold twist, the body black, and a red feather over the whole. These hackles are taken from nine to eleven in the morning, and from one to three in the afternoon. They do great execution, and suit all waters, and any month in the year.

6. The Great Dun. This is made with bear's hair of a dun colour, and those wings of the feather of a mallard near his tail. This is deemed the best fly for this month, and is productive of great sport to the angler.

7. The

7. The great Blue Dun. The wings of the black, dark grey feather of a mallard: the dubbing of a bear's hair next to the roots, mixed with a small quantity of blue camblet. * Ifabe small, ther.

8. The Dark Brown. The wings of a grey drake's feather, and the dubbing of the brown hair from the flank of a brended cow. 5. fly col the ne

In the use of the above hackles, the angler will recollect that some of them suit one water, and some another; and likewise pay a proper attention to the sky; for their size and colour is to be altered accordingly. In clear water a small hackle is best, and in deep-coloured water a larger. be ver ty-fou taken

MARCH.

The same flies to be used in this month as in the preceding; exclusive of which we have,

1. The Little Whirling Dun, which is made of the bottom of a squirrel's tail, and the wing of the grey feather of a drake. to the bi ex sh

2. The Bright Brown, made either of the down of a spaniel, or that of a cow's flank; with a grey wing. to ye ti m N

3. The Whitish Dun. The wings of this are made of the grey feather of the mallard, and the body of the roots of camel's hair. colour

4. The Thorn-Tree-Fly; made of a perfect black,

black, intermixed with eight or ten hairs of
 *Isabella-coloured mohair. The body very
 small, and the wings of a bright mallard's fea-
 ther. This fly is famous for its execution.

5. The Blue Dun. The dubbing for this
 fly consists of the fine blue hair combed from
 the neck of a greyhound. The wings should
 be very white, and from the tenth to the twen-
 ty-fourth of the month he is most certainly
 taken.

* Sir John Hawkins, in his notes on Walton's
 and Cotton's angling, has this remark on the Isa-
 bella-coloured mohair. "The Archduke Albertus,
 who had married the Infanta Isabella, daughter
 of Philip the Second, King of Spain, with
 whom he had the Low Countries in dowry, in
 the year 1602, having determined to lay siege
 to Ostend, then in the possession of the heretics,
 his pious Princess, who attended him in that
 expedition, made a vow, that till it was taken
 she would never change her clothes. Contrary
 to expectation, as the story says, it was three
 years before the place was reduced, in which
 time her Highness's linen had acquired the above-
 mentioned hue."

N. B. This colour is whitish yellow, or buff
 colour a little soiled.

6. The

6. The little Black Gnat: the dubbing either of the fur of a black water-dog, or the down of a young black water-coot: the wings made of the male of a mallard, as white as can be procured: the body very small, and the wings not to extend beyond it.

7. After the middle of this month use the Bright Brown, which continues in use till about the tenth of April. The dubbing for it is to be had out of a skinner's lime-pits, of the hair of an abortive calf, which will be turned to gold-colour by the strength of the lime. The feather of a brown hen is best for the wings.

APRIL.

The hackles and flies in March are the same as those in this month; but the browns must be lapped with red silk, and the duns with yellow. In this month are likewise taken.

1. The Small Bright Brown, which is made of spaniel's fur, with a light grey wing. This is taken in clear water, on a bright day.

2. The Dark Brown; the dubbing of the same colour, intermixed with violet-coloured camblet. The wing of the grey feather of a mallard.

3. From year

3. From the sixth to the tenth of this month use the Violet Fly, which is made of a dark violet stuff, with the wings of the dark feather of a mallard.

4. The Whirling Dun. This is made of the down of a fox-cub, and ribbed about with yellow silk: the wings of the pale grey feather of a mallard. This fly is usually taken at noon, from the twelfth of the month to the end of it, and occasionally to the end of June.

5. The Yellow-Dun. Dub with a small quantity of pale yellow crewel, mixed with fox-cub down from the tail, and warp with yellow: the wing of a palish starling's feather. This fly is taken from eight to eleven in the morning, and from two to five in the afternoon. It is a good fly for April and May.

6. The Horse-Flesh-Fly. The dubbing of this is a blue mohair, with a pink-coloured and red tammy mixed; the wing light-coloured, and the head dark-brown. This fly is taken through the month, and kills best from two hours before sun-set till night.

MAY.

This month and the following are more favourable to the fly-angler than all others in the year wherefore we shall be very particular in

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describing the flies proper to be used; and first speak of those kinds that are least in esteem.

1. The Turkey-Fly. The dubbing raveled out of some blue stuff, and lapped about with yellow silk: the wings of the feather of a grey mallard.

2. The great Hackle, or Palmer-Fly; the body yellow, ribbed with gold twist; the wings of a mallard's feather, and the dubbing of the fur of a black spaniel.

4. The Light-Brown with a slender body the dubbing twirled upon small red silk, and raised with the point of a needle, that the ribs or rows of silk may appear through: the grey feather of a mallard forms the wings.

5. The little Dun. The dubbing of a bear's dun hair whirled upon yellow silk; the wings of the grey feather of the mallard.

6. The White Gnat. This is composed of a black head, and a pale wing.

7. The Peacock-Fly; the body of the whorl of a peacock's feather, with a red head, and the wings of the feather of a mallard.

8. The Cow-Lady, a small fly: the wings of a red feather, or stripes of a red hackle of a cock; the body of a peacock's feather.

9. The Cow-Dung Fly: the dubbing

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mixture of light-brown and yellow, and the wing the dark-grey feather of a mallard.

It is to be remarked that all the hackles and flies taken in April will be taken this month; only the flies must be smaller, and the hackles brighter.

We will now proceed to those flies which are most in esteem this month, viz.

1. The Dun-Cut. Dub with bear's-cub fur, and a little yellow and green crewel; warp with yellow or green; a large dun wing, and two horns at the head, made of the hair of a squirrel. This fly almost certainly kills.

2. The Artificial Green Drake. This comes in about, or soon after the twentieth of the month, and is taken at all hours till the end of June in stony rivers. Observe the following directions to make it. On a large hook dub with camel's hair, bright bear's hair, the soft down that is combed from a hog's bristles, and yellow camblet well intermixed; the body long and ribbed about with green silk, or rather yellow silk waxed with green wax: the wisks of the tail of the long hair of fables, or fitchet; and the wings of the white-grey feather of a mallard dyed yellow.

3. The Artificial Stone Fly. Make it of bear's dun hair, with a little brown and yellow

low camblet well mixed, but disposed in such a manner, that on the belly, and towards the tail underneath, the fly may be more yellow than on any other part. Place two or three hairs of a black cat's beard on the top of the hook, in the arming, so as to be turned up when you warp on your dubbing, and to stand almost upright. Rib your fly with yellow silk; make the wings long and large, of the dark-grey feather of a mallard.

4. The Black Fly. The body black, the whirl of an ostrich feather, ribbed with silver twist, and the hackle of a black cock over all: this fly will kill, but is not to be mentioned with the two preceding.

5. The Little Yellow May-Fly. The shape of this is precisely the same as the green drake, and of a remarkably bright yellow, which is made of a bright yellow camblet, and the wings of a white grey feather dyed yellow.

6. The Camblet Fly. This is shaped like a moth, and its wings are finely diapered or watered. The artificial fly is made with dark brown shining camblet, ribbed over with a very small light green silk; the wings of the double grey feather of a mallard. It is a killing fly for small fish, and likewise for graylings.

JUNE.

JUNE.

The green drake and stone-fly are taken till about the twenty-fourth of this month: and flies proper to the month are

1. The Owl Fly, which is taken from the twelfth to the twenty-fourth of this month, late at night. Dub with the white of a weasel's tail, and let the wing be white grey.

2. The Barm Fly. Dub with the fur of a yellow dun cat, and the grey wings of a wild mallard's feather.

3. The Purple Hackle, made with a purple body, whipt about with a red capon's feather.

4. The Gold-Twist Hackle, with a purple body, whipt about with a red capon's feather.

5. Flesh-Fly. For dubbing make use of a black spaniel's fur, and blue wool mixed; and let the wing be grey.

6. The little Flesh-Fly. Make the body of the whirl of a peacock's feather, and the wings of the grey feather of a drake.

7. The Peacock Fly. The body and wing both made of the feather of the peacock.

8. The Ant-Fly. Dub with brown and red camblets mixed, and let the wing be light grey.

9. The Brown Gnat. Make the body very slender, with brown and violet camblet, well mixed, and the wing a whitish grey. 10.

78. COMPLETE ART OF ANGLING.

10. The Little Black Gnat. The dubbing black mohair, and the wing a lightish grey.

11. The Green Grasshopper. The dubbing of a mixture of green and yellow wool, ribbed over with green silk, and over the whole a red capon's feather.

12. The Little Dun Grasshopper. The body made of a dun cambler, and very slender, with a dun hackle at the top.

JULY.

During this month all the small flies that are taken in June, will be taken; and likewise the following:

1. The Orange Fly. Dub with orange-coloured wool, and make the wings of the feather from a blackbird's wing.

2. The Little White Dun. The body should be made of white mohair, and the wings of the blue feather of the heron.

3. The Wasp-Fly. Make this of dark-brown dubbing, or else the fur of a black cat's tail, ribbed about with yellow silk; and the wings of the grey feather of a mallard.

4. The Black Hackle. The body must be made of the whirl of a peacock's feather, and a black hackle feather on the top. There is likewise another without wings, made of a peacock's whirl.

6. The

5. The Black-Blue-Dun. The wings must be made of the feather of a blue pidgeon's wing. The dubbing is the fur of a black rabbit mixed with a little yellow.

AUGUST.

In this month are taken the same flies as in July; likewise

1. A second kind of Ant-Fly; the dubbing of the darkest brown hair of a cow, approaching to black, with a dark wing, and some red warped in for the tag of his tail. This fly is almost certain to kill.

2. The Fern-Fly; the dubbing of the fur of a hare's neck, which resembles fern in colour, with a darkish grey feather of a mallard's wing. This fly is also a good killer.

3. The White-Hackle; the body composed of white mohair, and warped with a white hackle feather.

4. A Harry-Long-Legs. Made of lightish bear's hair, and a dunnish hackle; and a few hairs of light blue mohair, and a little fox-cub down; warp with light grey or pale blue silk, and make the head large. This fly is commonly taken in a cloudy, windy day. All the same browns and duns that are taken in the month of May, are likewise taken in this month.

SEPTEMBER.

SEPTEMBER.

1. The Camel Brown; the dubbing pulled out of the lime of a wall, whipped about with red silk, and the wing made of a darkish grey mallard's feather.

2. A Fly to which no name is given, but thus made; the black hair of a badger's skin, mixed with the yellow softest down of a fanded hog.

Exclusive of the two abovementioned, all the same flies are taken in September as in April.

OCTOBER.

The flies which serve for the month of March, are likewise proper for that of October.

NOVEMBER.

The flies proper for November are the same as those which are taken in February.

DECEMBER.

It is not a very frequent custom to angle with a Fly either in this month or in January; but when the weather is very mild, it is sometimes done. In this case, a brown, that looks red in the hand, and yellowish betwixt your eye and the sun, will both raise and kill
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in a clear water, which is free from snow-broth.

It may be proper to remark, that among all the flies abovementioned, none are so proper to kill a number, even of the largest fish, as the DRAKE and STONE-FLY.

An ingenious writer on this subject says, "The reader may depend on this List of Flies, and rest assured, that with some or other of this list of Flies, especially with the palmers or hackles, the great dun, dark brown, early and late bright brown, the black gnat, yellow dun, great whirling dun, dun cut, green and grey drake, camblet fly, cow-dung fly, little ant-fly, badger-fly, and fern-fly, he shall catch Trout, Grayling, Chub, and Dace; in any water in England or Wales; always remembering that in a strange water, he first tries the plain, gold, silver, and peacock hackle."

After the above list of COTTON'S FLIES, to which we have made some few necessary alterations, it may be proper to give the following CATALOGUE OF FLIES, as it is separated into three divisions, under the titles of MODERN CATALOGUE OF FLIES.

CHAP.

C H A P. XXI.

*Modern Catalogue of Flies.**Number I.*

FEBRUARY.

1. PEACOCK'S HACKLE. Peacock's herl alone, or interchanged with ostrich herl, warping red silk, red cock's hackle over all: it may be varied by a black cock's hackle and silver twist. Taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning, and from one to three in the afternoon. This and the several other hackles, described in the course of this work, being very tempting baits, should always be first tried when the angler comes to a strange river; and not changed till he has found out, and is certain, what particular fly is upon the water.

2. The Red-Fly; is made of a drake's feather, and the body of a red hackle, and the red part of a squirrel's fur. He has four wings, which lie flat on his back.

MARCH.

1. Ash-coloured Dun. Dub with the roots of a fox's tail; warp with the pale yellow silk:

filk: wing of the pale part of a starling's feather. This fly, which is also called the Violet Dun, and Blue Dun, is to be found on almost every river: it varies much in its colour, according to the season of the year. In March and September it is called, and that very properly, the Violet Dun, for it has often that hue; and therefore it is usual to mix the blue violet crewel with the fox-cub down. In April it assumes a pale ash-colour, and in May is of a beautiful lemon-colour, both body and wings. In June and July it is blue-black, and from July it insensibly varies till it becomes of its primitive colour, violet dun, which it never fails to do by September.

2. Green Peacock Hackle. Greenish herl of a peacock: warping green filk, a black hackle over all. Taken from eight to eleven in the morning.

3. Dark Brown. Dub with the hair of a dark brown spaniel or calf, that looks ruddy by being exposed to wind and weather: warp with ruddy or chocolate-coloured filk. The wing of the darkish part of a starling's quill-feather. Taken chiefly from nine to eleven in the morning. The same fly is taken in September.

APRIL.

APRIL.

1. Blue-Dun. Dub with the fur of a water-rat, and warp with ash-colour; the wing of a coot's feather. Morning and afternoon.

2. Pearl-colour, or Heron-Dun. Dub with the yellowish or ash-coloured herl of a heron; warp with ash-coloured silk; wing from the short feather of a heron, or from a coot's wing, of an ash colour.

3. Spider-Fly, comes about the middle of April, if the Spring be favourable. The wings are made of a woodcock's feather, that lies under the but-end of the wing; the body of a lead-coloured silk, with a black cock's hackle wrapped twice or thrice round. The shape of the body the same as that of the ant-fly. In bright and warm days this fly appears, and comes out of beds of gravel by the water side, where, in such weather as abovementioned, they may be found in clusters from the middle to the latter end of the month.

4. Cow-Dung Fly, comes on about the middle of March, and continues till the latter end of April; but it is not to be fished with unless it be a cold windy day. The wings should be made of the blue feather of a hen tipped with yellow; to lie flat: make the
body

body of a lemon-coloured mohair, with a yellow feather about it. The whole should look like the large horse ant-fly.

MAY.

1. The Oak Fly. Some call this the Ash-Fly, and the others the Cannon-Fly. The head of which is large, of an ash-colour; the upper part of the body greyish, with two or three hairs of bright-brown mixt, and a very little blue, and sometimes a hair or two of light green: the tail part is greyish mixt with orange: the wing of a mottled brown feather of a woodcock, partridge, or brown hen; the hook No. 8 or 9. This is the fly which is seen so frequently in April, May, and June, on the body of the ash, oak, willow, or thorns, growing near the water, standing with its head downwards: it is an excellent fly, but difficult to imitate, being of many colours, unequally mixed. It takes chiefly in the morning; it does not seem to come from any cadis; for it never drops in great numbers on the water; and the wings are short, and lie flat on the back, like the blue-bottle, or large flesh-fly.

2. The Orange-Tawney, Orange-Brown, Gambler-Fly, Alder-Fly, Withy-Fly, or Bastard

tard Cadis. Dub with dark-brown camel's hair, or calf's hair that shines, or barge-sail; warp with deep orange; black hackle under the wing. The wing of a darkish feather of a mallard or starling. Chiefly taken of a morning before the green-drake comes upon the water.

3. Silver-Twist-Hackle. Dub with the herl of an ostrich feather; warp with dark green, silver-twist, and black cock's hackle over all. Taken from nine till eleven, particularly on a showery day.

4. Light-Flaming, or Spring-Brown. Dub with light brown of a calf; warp with orange colour; wing of a pale grey mallard's feather. This is a good fly, and taken chiefly before sun-set in a warm evening.

5. Sooty-Dun. Dub with black spaniel's fur, or the herl of an ostrich; warp with green; wing, the dark part of a land-rail or coot. Taken best in a showery day, and likewise in the months of April and June.

6. The Yellow Miller, or Owl-Fly. The body of a yellow marten's fur, or ostrich herl dyed buff-colour; wing of the ruddy feather of a young peacock's wing, or pale brown chicken. Taken from two till four in the morning, and from sun-set till ten at night.

7. Death

7. Death-Drake. The body, one herl of black ostrich, and two of peacock; silver-twist, black hackle: wing of the dark feather of a mallard, of a copper colour. Taken chiefly in an evening, when the May-Fly is almost gone.

8. Huzzard. Dub with pale lemon-coloured mohair, or ostrich feather dyed yellow; warp with yellow; gold twist and yellow hackle over all. Wing of a very pale mallard's feather dyed of a lemon-colour, the wings large, and longer than the body, lying flat on the back. Taken in a blustering day, before the May Fly comes in. This fly is little known, but the most beautiful of its species that frequent the water. It is larger than the green-drake, of a beautiful lemon-colour, both body and wings, which are four in number, and lie close to its back. It is to be met with but in few rivers, and is deemed a great curiosity; and in those rivers that produce them, they appear in great numbers about the latter end of April; at which time, and afterwards, the Trouts rise at them very eagerly: doubtless this is a true water-fly: it is supposed to be produced from very large cadis.

JUNE.

1. Cadis-Fly, which proceeds from the cod-bait, begins with June, and is a large fly, having four wings of a pale yellow, and likewise a body of pale yellow, ribbed with brown. The wings are made of a yellow hen's feather: the body of a buff-coloured yellow fur, ribbed with dark brown silk, and a yellow hackle three times round. These flies are not all gone till the end of the first week in July; and are to be fished with at the clearing of the water, after it has been discoloured when no other fly will do so well. While in the state of a grub, it is an admirable bait for fishing at the bottom.

2. Sky-Coloured-Blue-Fly, begins and ends with the month of June. It appears only in the evening of a very hot day. It is made of the feather of a light blue hen, with a yellowish gloss: the body is made of a light blue fur, mixed with a bright yellow, with a silver grizzled hackle over it. It may be used till the middle of July.

3. Oile-Fly, comes down to the beginning, and continues till the end of June, and is the best fly to fish with after the May-Flies are gone. The wings of this fly are made of a dark-grizzled cock's hackle; the body of a peacock's

peacock's herl, with very dark red silk. It has four wings, which should lie flat on the back as it swims down the water. This fly is to be fished with in the warmest weather; and may be successfully used from ten in the morning till four in the afternoon, at which time the fish decline the Orle-fly, and bite at the sky-coloured blue abovementioned.

JULY.

1. Pisinire. The body some few reeves of a cock pheasant's tail feather, or ruddy barge-sail, or brown carpet, or old bear's hair towards the roots, tanned with the weather: one peacock's herl may be twisted with it: warp with ruddy silk: wing the light part of a starling's feather less longer than the body. This is a killing fly after an emmet flight, but not before.

2. Willow-Cricket, or small Peacock Fly. A herl of green peacock's feather; warp with green silk: wing, of a starlings feather longer than the body. A morning fly, especially for grayling, in rapid rivers.

3. Middling Brown. Made of calf's hair, twisted upon pale yellow silk, for the silk to appear: wing of a mallard's feather.

H 3

4. Dark-

4. Dark-Brown. Warp with red silk, with a deep orange tag at the tail : wing, of a mallard's feather.

AUGUST.

Through this month the Pismire is used ; as likewise all the other flies of the month of July.

SEPTEMBER.

Large Fetid Light Brown. The body of light calf or cow's hair, or seal's fur dyed of the colour : warp with ruddy or orange-coloured silk : wing, of a ruddy brown chicken, large and long. This fly is much upon Hackney river, and is much ruddier there than elsewhere. A killing fly in the morning.

C H A P. XXII.

Modern Catalogue of Flies

Number II.

JANUARY.

1. DARK-BLUE HERL. The body, black rabbit's scut ; black of a hare's scut : greenish peacock's herl : warp with brown silk : wing, the light part of a fieldfare's feather.

2. Black

2. Black Hackle. Body, pale yellow silk, with a black cock's hackle turned about it.

3. Dun Hackle. Body, dun-coloured silk, with a dun cock's hackle.

4. Spring Black. Black wool of a sheep's face, with or without a greenish peacock's herl: warp with brown silk: wing, the grey feather of a mallard.

5. Second Spring Black. Body, the very blackest part of the darkest hare's scut you can procure, with or without a greenish peacock's herl: warp with ash-coloured silk; wing, of a fieldfare's feather. This and the other spring-black are taken best in bright weather.

FEBRUARY.

The flies directed to be used in January, are likewise proper for use in this month.

MARCH.

In this month the same flies are used as in January and February, and likewise the following:

1. The Turkey, or March-Fly. Body, brown foal's hair; tops of the wings of a woodcock, some ruddy, others grey, well mixed

mixed together. warp with pink and yellow, or pink and light-coloured brown silk, twisted together: wing, of the feather of a cock pheasant. This is thought to be the cob-fly, so much celebrated in Wales.

2. The Brown Fly, or Dun Drake. This fly begins to come down about the middle of March, and continues till the middle of April. It is made of the feather of a partridge or pheasant, the body of a partridge's hackle, with the fur of a hare under it, ribbed with yellow silk. This fly is taken from eleven till two or three o'clock.

APRIL.

1. Dun. Body, dunnish filmert, or marten's fur; Indian fox-dun; light dun fox-cub; coarse hair of the stump of a squirrel's tail, of a brightish brown, or a yellowish cad; warp with yellow silk; wing, of a light field-fare's feather.

2. Pale, or Sky-blue Watchet. It is a small fly, and appears on the water on a cold day. The body, fur of a water-rat, black part of a hare's scut, the pale roots cut off; a very little brown bear's hair; warp with pale brown, or orange-coloured silk: wing of a hen blackbird.

3. Light

3. Light Blue. Body, light fox-cub fur; a little light foal's hair; a little squirrel's fur that is light coloured; all these well mixed together; warp with yellow silk: wing, of a light fieldfare's feather.

4. Plain Hackle. Body, black ostrich herl, with red or black cock's hackle over it; and in hot weather add gold twist.

5. Red Hackle. Body, red silk and gold twist, and a red cock's hackle till June. Afterwards use orange-silk for the body. This is deemed an excellent fly; but it is to be observed that it is more properly the orange-fly. Its colour is like that of a Seville orange. Wings may be added, either of a hen or chicken, of an orange or ruddy cast; or a dull dark wing, of the softest feather of a rook's wing. It has four wings, two next the body, of a very dark grey colour, and two serving as a case over them, sometimes of a dirty blackish colour, and sometimes of an orange colour.

6. Yellow Watchet. Body, water-rat's fur, the blackest part of a hare's scut; greenish yellow crewel for feet; warp with green silk: wing, the lightest part of a blackbird's feather.

7. Black Caterpillar Fly. This comes about the middle of April, and appears till the

the middle of May. Wings, of a Jay's feather, one part blue, and the other part black: body, of a feather out of the top of a plover, with a dark hackle over it. The body of this fly is of a fine shag like velvet, which the plover's feather makes admirably well. To be fished with in warmer days, when it is also windy and cloudy; for then the flies grow weak for want of the sun, and fall, in great numbers, on the water.

8. Sand-Fly. Body, dark brown foal's hair, a little blue squirrel's fur, and the whitish yellow of the same; warp with yellow silk: wing, the light part of a fieldfare's feather.

9. Green Tail. Body, dark part of a hare's scut, and darkest blue fur of an old fox: light part of a squirrel's tail, and a hair or two of the coarse brownish part of it for feet; warp with ash-coloured silk: wing of a hen pheasant.

10. Knotted Grey Gnat. Body, darkest part of a hare's scut, dark brown foal's hair, dark fur of the black of an old fox; warp with grey silk: wing the blue feather of a fieldfare.

MAY.

The above flies may be used in this month; and likewise the following:

1. Little

1. Little Iron Blue Fly. This begins and ends with May; and they come in great numbers in cold or stormy days. The wing of this fly is made of a cormorant's feather that lies under the wing, in the same form as those of a goose: the body is made with the fur of a mole, or rather a water-rat's fur, ribbed with yellow silk, and a grizzle hackle wrapped twice or thrice round. The wings should stand upright, with a little forked tail. This fly is eagerly taken by the grayling.

2. Yellow Sally Fly; appears from the middle of May to the beginning of June. The wings are made of a yellow cock's hackle: it has four wings which lie flat, the body is made with yellow dubbing, mixed with dark brown fur, and a yellow hackle round it.

3. The Shorn-Fly comes in the middle of May, and continues about a month, and is frequently found in the mowing of grass: it has a husky wing of a dark brown colour, with fine clear blue wings underneath. It is a very killing fly till the May-fly comes in, though hitherto but little noticed by anglers. The wings of this fly are made of a Jay's feather, taken out of the wing, mixed with a little black and blue; and the body is made
of

of a flesh-coloured silk with a red hackle over it. When the water is in order, this fly is a certain killer.

4. Blue Herl. Body, fox's fur, dark part of a hare's scut, greenish herl of a peacock, (if the weather is warm for the season, otherwise little or none of the greenish herl;) warp with brown silk: wing, of a starling's feather.

5. Dun. Body, dunnish blue fur of an old fox, mixed with pale yellow, the ends of the hairs of an old fox almost red; some coarse hairs taken out of the tail, or brush; warp with yellow: wing, starling's feather.

6. Black Herl. Body, black herl of an ostrich, and ruddy herl of a peacock, twisted together; warp with brown silk: wing, the light feather of a fieldfare.

7. Peacock Hackle. Body, peacock's ruddy herl; red cock's hackle; warp with red silk.

8. Pewit, or Lapwing's Topping. Body, peacock's herl, and that of a lapwing's crown feather, twisted together; warp with red silk: wing, the red feather of a partridge's tail.

9. Orange Brown. Body, orange-coloured wool, with bright brown bear's hair mixed; warp with orange silk: wing, of a starling's feather.

10. Light

10. Light Blue. Body, light fur of an old fox, mixed with yellow pale crewel; warp with pale yellow silk: wing light feather of a Jay.

11. Red Herl. Body, two herls of a peacock, twisted together: warp with ruddy silk: wing, the red feather of a partridge's tail.

12. Stone Gnat. Body, the roots of the darkest part of a hare's scut, the top or ends being cut off; warp with ash-coloured silk: wing, a blackbird's feather.

JUNE.

Through this month the fish will take the following flies of the last month: viz. the black herl, red herl, dun, stone-gnat, light-blue, orange-brown, peacock-hackle, and pewit's topping. They will likewise take the following:

1. The Whitterish. Body, the root-end of the white part of a hare's scut; light-grey foal's hair, or camel's hair, towards the tail, the dark part of a hare's scut with some brown hairs mixed: peacock's herl for the head; warp with white silk: wing, the feather of a sea-mew.

2. Light-Grey. Body, fur of the inner part of a rabbit's leg, the lightest of the dark part

part of a hare's scut: warp with ash-coloured silk: wings, light grey mallard's feather.

3. Brown Night-Fly, is made of the brown feather of a hen, and the body of the same colour. This is properly a moth, which flies by night only; and is to be used in a dark gloomy night after a warm day. In this fishing use a line about a yard longer than the rod, and put a couple of maggots at the point of the hook, which will be of great advantage to the smelling part. It will take fish both in streams and standing waters, and you may here rise in as much perfection as if you were fishing by day. They will continue to bite till day-break, if the night be gloomy and cloudy; but if it be a moon-shining or star-light night, they will not stir at these flies, any more than they will at the day-flies in a bright day.

4. White Night-Fly. This fly is, in my opinion, preferable to the former. It is made of the white owl's feather; on account of the softness of it, upon a middle-sized worm hook: the body of the same colour as the wings, and as big as a very large wheat-straw. It is in perfection about the latter end of May, and continues to the latter end of June; and if the natural fly be on the water during the night, the fish will not fail to bite at your artificial one.

JULY.

JULY.

The following flies, which are used in May and June, are likewise proper for use this month, viz. The peacock-hackle, black-herl, pewit's topping, and red-herl. The whit-terish and light-grey of last month may likewise be used; to which add

1. The Brown, which is thus made: body, hair of a very light brown or reddish calf or spaniel, and light bear's hair mixed; warp with pale orange: wing, the feather of a land-rail.

2. Red Spinner; begins with July, and ends about the middle of the month, and is useful only in the evenings of sultry days. The body is made of gold-twist, with a red hackle over it: wing, of a grey drake's feather, lightly tinged with a yellow gloss.

3. Large Black Ant-Fly. Body, of an ostrich's black feather, and a black cock's hackle wrapped twice round under the wing. Wing, of the lightest sky-coloured blue feather that can be procured, and of the greatest gloss: this fly is made in the same form as the following,

4. Large Red Ant-Fly. This, as well as the preceding, comes in bout the middle of June, if the weather be hot, and

both continue for a week or nine days. Take notice that these two Ant-flies that come first, are the large horse ants. The wings of this red-fly are made of a feather out of the wing of a starling, of a dusky colour: the body of a hog's down, dyed of an amber colour. It must be made very large at the tail, and small towards the wing; with a red cock's hackle wrapped twice round under the butt-end of the wing.

5. Blue Gnat; begins with July, and is a good killer when the water is low and fine. The wings to be made of a light blue cock's hackle; the body, the blue fur of a fox, mixed with some yellow.

6. Welshman's Button, or Hazle-Fly. It takes its name from its shape, which is as round as a button. It comes in towards the end of the month, and has an outer husky wing, and a small blue one under it. These flies are found on hazle trees and fern bushes, and drop as soon as the bushes are touched. The body is made of the dark part of camel's hair, and the wing of the dark hackle feather of a pheasant.

AUGUST.

The peacock hackle, black herl, pewit's-topping,

topping, and red-herl, which are used in May, are likewise proper for this month; in which also are taken,

1. The Brown Ant-Fly. Body, bright brown-bear's hair, much weather-beaten, almost of an orange-colour towards the tail, and therefore a few hairs of a light-brown or flame-coloured calf, or spaniel's hair, to be added in the tail-part. Warp with orange-coloured silk: wing, the light feather of a fieldfare or starling.

2. Black Ant-Fly. Body, darkest part of hair's scut, and dark brown wool, or sheep's ruffet, equally mixed, and one single ruddy herl of a peacock, all twisted together; warp with copper coloured silk: wing, a fieldfare's feather.

3. Grey-Fly. Body, light grey foal's hair, mixed with the dark part of a hare's scut: warp with grey silk: wing, of a hen-pheasant's feather.

4. Little Red and Black Ant-Flies. These come down the beginning of August, and are seen on the water from one to four in the afternoon. They are made of the same materials and of the same shape as the large ones are; but are only about half the size.

5. Little Whirling-Blue. This comes down the beginning of the month, and continues about a fortnight. The wings are made of the blue feather of a sea-gull; and the body of the red part of a squirrel's fur, ribbed with yellow, and a red hackle over it. This fly is to be used in the evenings of very warm days.

6. Little Pale-Blue. This comes down the beginning of August, and continues till the middle of September. It is greatly admired by the Grayling, which is now in season, and affords great diversion to the angler. The wings of this fly are made of the blue feather of a sea-swallow: the body of the bluest part of a fox's fur, with a very little yellow mohair mixed with it, ribbed with a straw-coloured silk, and a fine plain blue hackle over it. This fly continues till the willow-fly comes, and afterwards till the weather grows cold.

7. Willow-Fly. This comes about the middle of the month, and continues till the dun-blue comes again. It has four wings, which lie flat on the back; the belly is of a dirty yellow, and the back of a dark brown. The wings are made of a dun cock's hackle a little freckled; the body of a squirrel's fur, ribbed with yellow silk, and covered lightly with the same coloured hackle as the wings.

This

This fly is chiefly to be used in cold and stormy days; but in warm gloomy weather you must fish with the pale-blue, and these two flies last till the season for fly-fishing is at an end.

C H A P. XXIII.

Modern Catalogue of Flies.

Number III.

FEBRUARY.

1. PRIME-DUN. Wings, of the feather got from the quill of a starling's wing; dubbing, of the down of a fox-cub, warped with ash-coloured silk. This fly is made very small; but there is another made of the same dubbing, considerably larger.

MARCH.

In this month the flies proper to February are likewise taken, as well as the following.

1. Palm-Fly. Dubbing, of the hair of a brown spaniel, from the outside of the ear; and a little sea-green wool mixed, warped with brown coloured silk: wings of the quill-feather of a starling.

2. Green-Tail. Dubbing, of the brown hair of a spaniel, got on the outside of the ear, but

but a little in the end of the tail; must be all of sea-green wool without mixture: wings, as the preceding fly.

3. Moorish Brown. Dubbing of the wool of a black sheep; warped with red silk: wings, of the feather got from a partridge's wing.

APRIL.

1. Bright-Bear. Dubbing, of bright bear's hair; warped with sad cloth-coloured silk: wings, of the quill-feather of a starling. Some persons dub the body with yellow silk, which is the preferable method.

2. Yellow-Dun. Dubbing, of yellow wool, and ash-coloured fox-cub down mixed together, dubbed with yellow silk: wings, of the feather of a starling's quill. Others dub it with dun bear's hair, and the yellow fur got from a marten's skin, mixed together, and with yellow silk: wings, of a starling's quill-feather.

You may likewise make two other flies, their bodies dubbed as the last; but in the one mingle fanded hog's down; and in the other, black hog's down: wings, of a starling's quill feather: and there is also taken an excellent fly, made of dun bear's hair, yellow marten's fur, fanded hog's down, and black hog's down, all mixed in equal proportions; warped with yellow

low silk : wings, of the feather of a starling's quill. The abovementioned flies for April are very good, and will be taken all the spring and summer.

MAY.

1. Fern-Bud. This fly is fed on fern ; and the natural one is very good to dib with : it has a short thick body, of a very dull greenish colour, and two pair of wings, of which the uppermost are hard, and sometimes taken off ; but the undermost diaphonous. It is dubbed with the herl of a peacock, and very sad green silk : wings of the feather of a fieldfare's quill, got out of the wing.

2. Knop-Fly. Dubbing, of the down of an otter-cub, and the herl of a peacock ; warped with black silk : wings, of the light grey feather of a mallard.

3. Yellow May-Fly. Dubbing, of yellow wool, mixed with yellow fur of a marten ; warped with yellow silk : wings, of the lightest coloured feather of a throistle.

4. Little Dun. Dubbing of an otter's fur ; warped with ash-coloured silk : wings, of the quill-feather of a starling.

5. Thorn-Fly. Dubbing of black lamb's wool ; warped with black silk : wings, of the light grey feather of a mallard.

It

It is to be remarked, that wherever the feathers of mallards are directed to be used for wings, those of the wild, and not of the tame mallard, are intended.

JUNE.

1. Mackeril. Dubbing, of light brown camel's hair; warped with black silk: wings, of the feather of a red cock.

2. Sand-Fly. Dubbing, of the wool gotten off the flank of a black sheep, warped with black silk: wings, of the sad-coloured feather of a throstle-quill. Some persons make the body of the feather of a heron's neck.

3. Purple-Fly. Dubbing, of purple wool, and a little bear's hair mixed; sometimes no bear's hair at all: wings, of the quill-feather of a starling; warped with purple silk.

4. Black Midge, or Gnat. Dubbing, of the down of a mole; warped with black silk: wings, of a light grey feather of a starling.

5. Grey Midge, or Gnat. Dubbing, of the down of a sad grey cat, or sad grey camel's hair; warped with sad ash-coloured silk: wings, of the grey feather of a mallard.

JULY.

Blue-Dun. Dubbing, of the down of a water-mouse, and the bluish dun of an old fox mixed

mixed together; warped with sad ash-coloured silk: wings, of the quill-feather of a starling.

AUGUST.

1. The Pismire Fly. Dubbing, of a bright brown bear's hair, warped with red silk: wings, of the saddest-coloured quill-feather of a starling. This is deemed a good fly.

2. Buss Brown. Dubbing, of the light-brown hair of a cur; the head black: wings, of the feather of a red hen; warped with orange-coloured silk.

3. Hearth-Fly. Dubbing, of the wool of an old black sheep, with some grey hairs in it, for the body and head: wings, of a light starling's quill-feather, warped with black silk.

SEPTEMBER.

Little Blue-Dun. Dubbing, of the down of a mouse, for body and head; warped with sad ash-coloured silk: wings, of the quill-feather of a sad-coloured starling.

C H A P. XXIV.

A Receipt for making Broth of Perch, Roach, Dace, Gudgeons, Bleak, or Minnows.

THIS Broth is extremely nourishing, and far preferable to any other kind, made either from meat or eels. You must proportion the
number

number of fish you make use of for this purpose, to their size and the quantity of broth you design to prepare from them : I commonly use two or three dozen of the Perch, and eight to ten dozen of the lesser fish. Having cut off the heads of your fish, gutted, and carefully cleansed them from the gall, put them into an earthen pipkin or a tin saucepan (copper how well tinned soever, will give the broth a bad flavour) and cover them with water to the height of half an inch, if your broth is required to be very strong, otherwise to the height of an inch. Add of onions, parsley and cellary, of all or either, such quantities as shall be suitable to your palate, and season the whole with pepper and salt. Simmer your fish over a gentle fire, till they fall to pieces, and when you think that the broth is nearly ready, stir in a large lump of good fresh butter, well floured ; and when the butter is wholly dissolved you may send your broth to table, having first strained it from the bones : it may be eaten with bread, either toasted or plain, according to your fancy. If you would chuse to eat the fish with the broth, you must lessen the quantity of water, and boil them no longer when once they begin to crack : the proper sauce for them is melted butter and parsley,

THE END.